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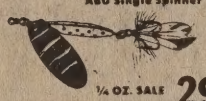

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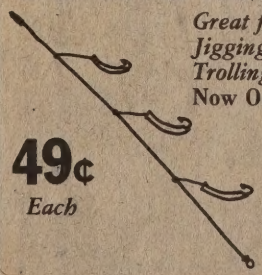

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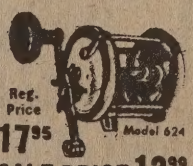

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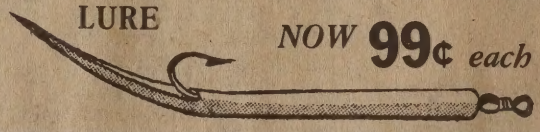

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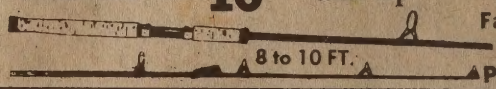

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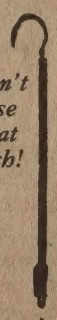

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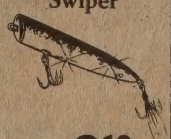

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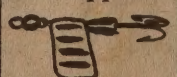

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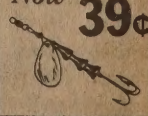

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Volume 10, No. 28 July 24th, 1975

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ABOUT THE COVER: Surf caught fluke adorn the tailgate of a beach buggy. See "SurfSide Fluke," on page 8. Photo by Dr. William A. Muller.

PUBLISHER
Rich Reina

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Dr. William A. Muller

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER
Mike Zarrella

ADVERTISING MANAGER
Stu Miller

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Scott Simons

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Wear Long Pants for Clamming

I just finished reading the article by Tom Franza about The Lost Art of Clamming and enjoyed it very much, especially the part where he stepped on the flounder. I would like to add one thought to the article, and that is to bring with you an old pair of long pants. The reason for this is jellyfish. If there are not any jellyfish around, don't wear the pants, but if there are just put them on and your trip will not be ruined. I learned this lesson the hard way. *Thomas P. Van de Kieft, Miller Place.*

While I was looking over the pamphlet of Long Island boat ramps I received in the Fisherman's package, I came across a grave error. I have only been to a few ramps, but one I go to frequently is the one at the end of Huntington Harbor (#9). The reason I am writing is that I believe the drawing of the area is off terribly. The harbor is missing. I realize that this isn't a detailed map, but if I didn't know the ramps location from experience I never would be able to find it. You also left out Sand City and Lloyds Harbor to confuse me even more. These are the only mistakes I saw, and I hope the only ones. Keep up the great work! *Alan J. Meltzer, Dix Hills.*

The map on the ramp list was never intended as a road map but simply as a very general reference. Most of the ramps listed have the name of the street and sometimes, even a phone number. If you use this information along with a Hastrom Road map you will be able to pinpoint the very spot of the ramp.

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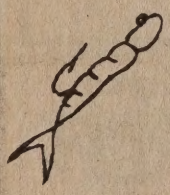

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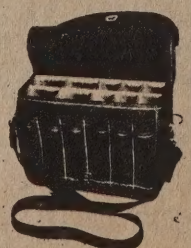

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CONTESTS & TOURNAMENTS

Swordfish Tourney Results

Deep Sea Club's Swordfish Tournament most successful in years. The Woods Hole Oceanograpic Institution Invitational Swordfish Tournament, held at Montauk's Deep Sea Club over the Fourth of July weekend, turned out to be a smashing success. In fact, the first day of fishing, July 4, may well have been the finest day of sportfishing for swordfish along the east coast in decades. Twenty boats sighted a total of 68 swordfish, of which 46 were baited, 11 hooked, and 6 boated. Most amazing was the preformance of the "Cookie Too", skippered by Eddie Murray. Eddie and his able crew boated three swordfish on that first day and ran away with most of the awards. Eddie's son, Cookie, captured the first, a 290 pounder, while boat owner, Donn Stott, took the next two of 220 and 224 lbs.

Imagine boating two swordfish in a day and only placing second. That's what happened to Bernie Madoff. Bernie boated swords of 205 and 206 lbs. on July4, while fishing aboard the charter boat "Makaria". The sixth swordfish fell to Ginny Hausknecht, fishing aboard her husband Richard's boat "Galatea". Ginny's fish scaled 326 lbs. and took big fish honors.

While many fish were sighted on Saturday, none were boated. Sightings totaled 47, with 29 baited, 5 hooked, and nothing in the boat—more normal swordfishing! Sundays' fishing was restricted by fog. A few of the more adventurous boats gave it a try and managed to sight 21 swords and bait 15. However, there were no strikers in the group. Nevertheless, the first days fishing made this probably the most successful swordfish tournament since the fifties (prior to the start of longlining).

Major benificary of the tournament is the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Prior to the start of the tournament, chairman Don Merten presented a check for $3,000 to Dr. Frank Cary of Woods Hole, as a contribution for gamefish research from the Deep Sea Club and various individuals. In addition, any excess funds from the tournament will go to the institution for the same purpose.

Next years swordfish tournament will be restricted to 21 boats and once again, held on a weekend during the dark of the moon—a time at which swordfish seem to surface readily. For information about invitations contact Don Merten at the Deep Sea Club, Inc., Star Island, Montauk Point, L.I. N.Y. 11954.

The Long Island FISHERMAN

FISHING TRIP CONTEST

George Gerhold of Island Park called in to L.I.F. a description of his car by the Friday deadline to become this weeks L.I.F. litter box contest winner. George has been sent a check for $20 and has also chosen a free fishing trip for two aboard the Peconic Queen II for his prize. For information as the how you may participate in the contest, see page 9.

News Releases

FISHERMAN'S SURVEY

Boat operators and surf fisherman along the Long Island shore will soon be finding themselves subjects of a survey designed to help improve opportunities for sportsmen in the area.

Conducted by Dr. E.G. Carls, Assistant Professor of Recreation Education at State University of New York College at Cortland, and sponsored by the State University of New York Sea Grant Institute, the study will actually take the form of a pair of surveys to be conducted from late July to November.

According to Dr. Carls, one survey will concentrate on the surf fisherman along the Long Island shore while the other survey will deal with fishermen who use the many party and charter boat services of Long Island.

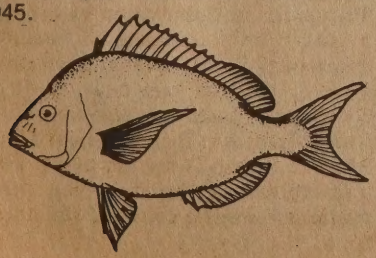
Major survey points will be Montauk, Port Jefferson, Captree State Park, Jones Beach, Sheepshead Bay with another location in the Mastic Beach area. Fishermen in those areas will be asked to fill out questionnaires dealing with their interests and opinions regarding the factors they deem important to their enjoyment of fishing on the island.

The aim of the study is to draw a composite picture of surf and boat fishermen which can be distributed to operators of recreational facilities in the area so that they can better serve their public.

Dr. Carls estimated that data would be evaluated and ready for distribution by the early part of 1976.

Said Dr. Carls, "There is an unproven theory that use of recreational facilities on Long Island by fishermen has decreased. We want to find out if this is true and if so, why. Then, we should be able to determine what can be done to improve boat rental service by finding out who the users are and how to reach them."

Further information on the study is available from Dr. Carls or Regina Bresnan through the Department of Recreation Education, State University College, Cortland, New York 13045.



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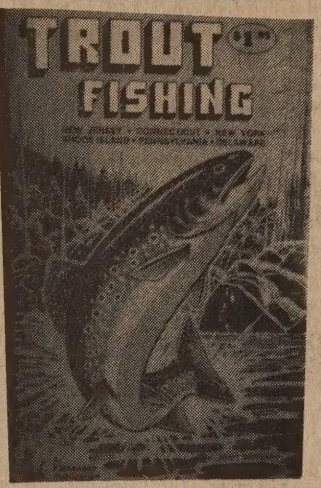

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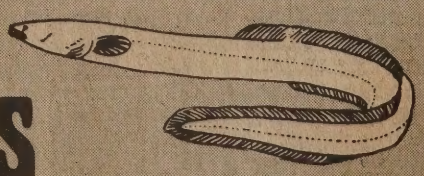

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DIvING

with John Fennimore

The Forgotten Jetty

Mention the words "jetty diving" in a dive shop and people's thoughts float over to Montauk, Jones Inlet or Shinnecock. But they've missed one of the oldies and really biggies. This, according to nautical charts, is Rockaway Point, better known as Breezy Point. This massive stone structure provides shelter for many varieties of marine fauna and flora.

These gigantic rocks head almost semi-circularly for about one and one-fifth nautical miles. But they go as straight as an arrow at both ends, especially those rocks which made up the point. The point itself juts out into the ocean for approximately three-tenths nautical mile. The grassy fields that surround the jetty on one side create an area I call, "tern community". Here thousands of birds congregate to lay eggs and take care of their young.

The only problem is getting there. I'm not going to kid you; this place can be a real pain. When it comes to boat ramps the big city is "El Cheepo", because they are just about non-existent. So unless your boat is a cartopper, leave it home. But if you have an outboard motor not less than six nor more than 20 h.p., bring it.

At Sheepshead Bay you can rent a rowboat. The cost of doing so will go down greatly if you bring your own motor. Now you can get to the point by sea. But make sure that the wind is calm, or you may be out of luck. I would also recomend bringing your own anchor, becuase sometimes they will give you a junky welded reinforcing rod anchor.

This type of boat is small and relatively unstable, especially when you put a lot of heavy diving here in it. Make sure that the boat is not leaking, and the transom can securely hold your motor. Don't feel shy about rejecting a boat. Your equipment is worth ten times what that boat is. Distribute the equipment evenly over the length of the boat. This will increase stability and motor efficiency.

Using a boat is not the only way of getting there. You can run along beside the rocks to the beginning of the point with a jeep or a beach buggy of some sort. Then you will be able to use scuba. The swim to the end will be a long one, so try to use your snorkel as much as possible. If you decide to do it this way, timing will be very important. At five hours after high tide, the current will usually be running slowly out on bayside. Utilizing this to get you out, you will then be able to dive at low tide slack, and come back on bayside when the water turns around.

Unfortunately, low water isn't the best time to dive. The blackfish seem to move out when the water gets shallower. But there is yet another way to get out there. This method is called backpacking. One must have: a strong will and body, agility needed for a jetty jockey, a do or die attitude, He or she must also be slightly off in the head to do it this way.

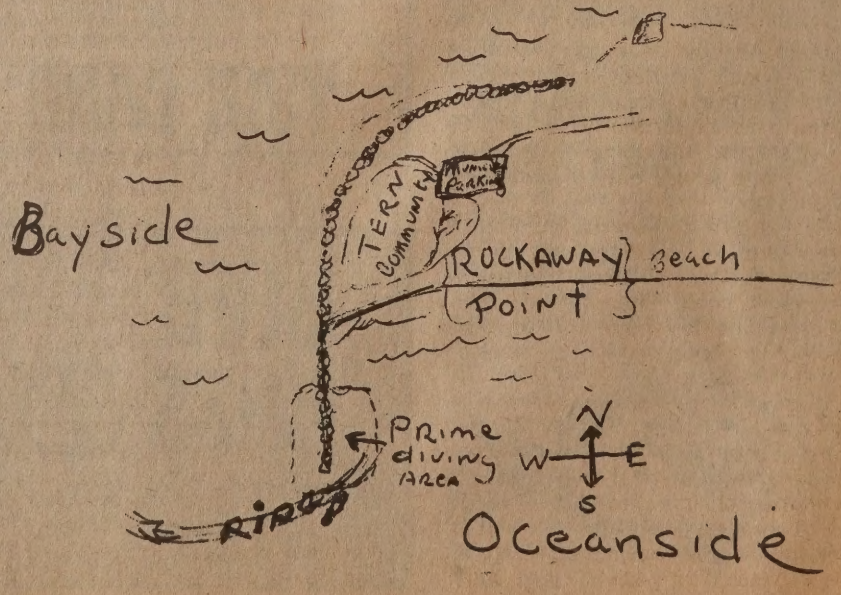
Possessing all these traits (except the latter), I have used this method many times: there definitely are advantages to this method. When there is a full or new moon the tides get unusually high. The water comes up and cuts through the rocks, forming channels and ponds of water in the sand. If you're hiking along the jetty, you're in no trouble. But if you decide to go by beach buggy, well—good luck!

I once saw some people in a VW "abandon ship". Their car had fallen into one of these nasty little trenches. They opened the doors and the water ran through like a miniature river. Another advantage is that you can park your car for free at a municipal parking lot which is right next to the jetty. The main disadvantage with backpacking is that you will be unable to use scuba.

The rocks of the point get increasingly treacherous with every step you take. Exercise the utmost caution. Previous jetty experience is needed before you tackle this baby. If the rocks are too slimey for you, tie a rag around your shoes for added traction. When you decide to enter the water, put your pack down and look for some gently sloping rocks. The rock you choose should have marine invertebrate growth (mussels, barnacles etc.) on its upper portion. This will give your feet a good grip. The lower portion should have plant growth on it. This will allow the diver to slide into the water when he is ready, or not ready, as the case may be.

Checking my dive log, I found something interesting about the point. On April 19 I made a dive. There were no blackfish, but there were hundreds of thousands of crabs. They covered the bottom, the rocks and everything else. Then the spring run of blackfish came in May. It seems that before this major run of fish, the crabs come in fantastic numbers and provide food for the blacks.

Diving the point in the spring is an exhilarating experience. Swarms of tiny fish in the larvae stage swim about, eating plankton. If you dive often enough you can see what they



develop into. Young bass can be seen skittering about among the rocks. New life is everywhere. Although the blackfish can be found in great quantities, I strictly limit my catch. This is due to the fact that most fish will be carrying eggs, and I don't want to subtract from next year's pleasures.

The most productive area of the jetty is the part which is surrounded by water (the point). The other areas are almost totally barren. This is due to regular intervals of exposure to the sun and flooding. The strength of the tides is greatly evident here. Sometimes the water is splashing into the rocks up and down the jetty. Other times it seems that you could walk forever without finding water that's up to your waist.

This may not be a good place to hunt, but it is a good place to learn how to dive. The point, though, always has water surrounding it, and does provide good hunting.

There is a fantastic rip which is a result of these strong tides. It zoomed around the tip of the point, peaking its speed at approximately three hours after low tide. This rip is a danger to divers because it could sweep them into the channel, and the boat traffic that goes with it. Therefore, it is very important that you dive at slack tide. If you are in doubt as to whether or not it is slack, then check the buoys in the area. On bayside of the point the black can buoys will be tilted if the rip is running. The rip may be a hazard, but it is the life-giving factor in an otherwise desolate area.

If the wind, waves, current and boat traffic is minimal, then try a dive a little farther out. But only chance it if you have a boat. Midway between the red bell buoy and the point, there is a small patch of submerged rocks extending only a few feet above the bottom. This is not very impressive to look at, but it is the best hunting area around. The fish seem to move in and out between the buoy and the point. This "midway" area seems to be a waiting station for the fish in between tidal stages. But this is a dangerous place, one where only skilled divers should go.

The entire section of the Point is scheduled to become part of the Gateway National Park. When this occurs it could change the atmosphere, conditions, and the surrounding areas. I hope that any changes will be for the better.

I dived at an underwater national park at Key Largo, Florida. It was a rare pleasure to dive in such an underwater paradise. It was teeming with beauty and ocean life. The fish were so tame that they followed you around, and they ate cut urchins out of your hand. The possibility of such a thing happening to this God-forsaken place gladdens my heart. But I know that it will never be what Key Largo is today, at least not in my lifetime. To even come close would involve the building of an artificial reef and improvement of the jetty.

But whatever happens, divers must always act honorably when diving here. This will prevent divers from getting a bad name and prevent anti-diving legislation.

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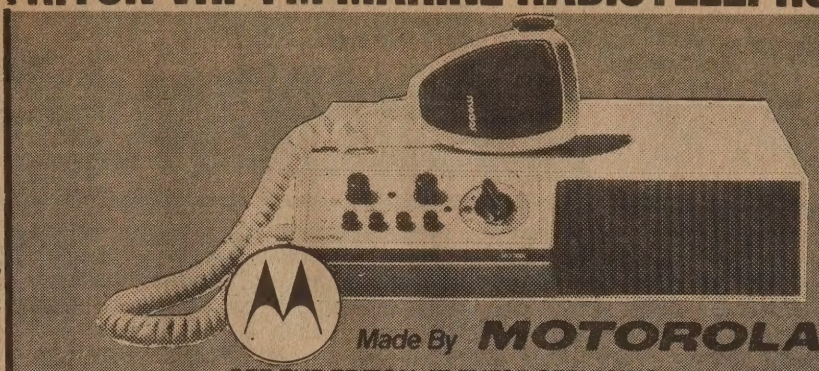

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Surf Side

with Doc Muller

FLUKE
Part Two

I hope that last week's chapter of this weekly effort has gotten you and your family all psyched-up for fluke. Well, I hope that a few of the items in this week's discussion will help to put you into fish.

Baitfishing is the time-honored means of taking fluke, but by no means the only way. But baitfishing is certainly the most leisurely way to fluking. Fluke fishing with a baited hook is unlike baitfishing for any other species, because the bait must be kept in constant motion. A bait lying motionless on the bottom is as likely to attract a strike as is a hunk of seaweed.

It won't be necessary to go into elaborate discriptions of accepted fluke rigs simply because they are the same whether one is in a boat or on the beach and the June issues of the Long Island Fisherman have offered you abundant drawings, descriptions, and photographs. Scott Simons' Bottom-line, a feature article by Matt Ahern, and several others have already done the job.

I will offer what is perhaps a different bait philosophy than the other writers. The standard baits are squid, killie, sandeels, strips of fluke, or combinations. Yet, surfcasters know that on any given day they are likely to catch a few searobins and perhaps a dogfish before they hit a fluke. Strips of searobin or dogfish belly are tremendous fluke baits from the surf and should be your first choice if possible. Strips of squid are perhaps the poorest choice while sandeels and killies do catch their share of fish especially if sandeels are common in the area. Inspite of these observations, I find more surf fishermen using squid for fluke than any other bait.

When you are baitfishing off the open beaches you should cast as close to the offshore bar as you can, and when the bait has settled to the bottom begin a very slow retrieve. The handle of your reel should barely move. A retrieve rate of about one turn every two seconds should be about right although the formula will vary because some reels are larger or smaller and are engineered with different gear ratios.

As you retrieve you will drag the bait past a fluke and the fish will pounce on it resulting in an increase in weight perceived by the angler on the other end. Usually a fluke will take the end of the bait and if given the chance will slowly chew his way to the head and thus within a few seconds will have the hook in his mouth. Therefore, the fisherman should stop reeling when he feels the weight and count to five. At the count of five lift the rod slowly, if there is still weight without motion again stop the lift. You must repeat the process until a lift of the tip (slow and gentle) brings a throb from the fish. This is the time to strike and you should strike hard! Sharp hooks are a must too because the jaws of fluke are hard and bony.

In fast moving water the technique is similar. Cast the baited rig out, but this time use a rather light sinker so that the current will carry the rig along rolling over the bottom. Again the fluke will grab at the bait as it drifts by and the angler will notice that the rig stops progresses downcurrent. Repeat the same lifting and waiting game that I have previously described. If a fish does not hit the bait as it drifts along they will sometimes prefer to strike as the rig comes to the end of its drift and the fisherman begins to retrieve. Be alert to drop back if you get a pickup and do not hurry the retrieve up-current.

I prefer to fish for fluke with lures and there are many lures that will take them. The bucktail is a classic lure and its versatile attractiveness includes the fluke's attention. Small bucktails are the most effective and they should be tipped with a piece of squid or porkrind for extra flutter and appeal. Fish in the same areas with lures as you would with bait. Cast the bucktail out and let it settle. Lift the rod tip gently but repeatedly allowing the leadhead to rest for a fraction of a second on the bottom before each lift. The fluke will scurry over to see what has kicked up the sand and they will be ready to pounce on anything that moves. When you once again lift the tip and take in a few turns of line the fluke will explode on it and there is no need to play drop back or cat and mouse games. The fish will take the bucktail and your only concern will be to sink the hook before the fish has a chance to spit it.

Small tube lures are excellent too. Once again the Tri-Fin white Whip-Tail came through for me. On a recent fluke trip I found myself with one bucktail, one small diamond jig, and one ¾ ounce Whip-Tail. My son scoffed up the Whip-Tail, on his first cast had a good sized fluke. He outfished both me and his mother who were stuck with the other lures.

The Whip-Tail has the advantage of built in action so therefore it isn't necessary to jig the thing. All that one has to do is reel in slowly so that the lure undulates on top of the sand.

Small tins are very effective lures also inspite of my poor showing with them and there are times when the fluke go bananas for them. Have you ever caught a fluke that hurdled above the waves like a tarpon? Well I have! I have had several large fluke do this while bucktailing north shore beaches. It's exciting to see those fluke doing an aerial act but remember that the object of the leap is the same as when bass or blues do it. Shake the hook!

Try a small dropper tied to the end of a swimming plug or popper in shallow water and you just may wind up with a bass, blue, or weakfish on the front lure with a fluke latched on to the rear.

Keep your fluke moist because they begin to smell badly when they warm up and dry out. Therefore, it's a good idea to clean them and ice them down as quickly as possible since the air temperature will be high and their meat is somewhat perishable.

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

FISHING TRIP CONTEST

The Long Island Fisherman is holding a contest where our readers can win a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the 45 convenient locations listed below and pick up an L.I.F. litter box for the rear window of his car. Each week the license plate number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, just call *The Fisherman* by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received by the deadline, the cash prize will accumulate.

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THE BOTTOM LINE

with Scott Simons

PORGY FISHING *Part Two*

The use of a chum pot to increase a porgy catch cannot be understressed. They are a foraging fish, only staying in an area as long as there is an immediate source of food, so it is necessary to provide a source of food under the boat to hold the porgies any length of time. At times, the use of chum is so effective it's hard to comprehend. One time I was bailing porgies one after another while my fishing partner Frank was going virtually fishless. We had a heated "discussion" about how I must be over a hole and how I should be a "pal" and switch places with him before we finally realized what was happening—the chum pot was tied to the cleat in my corner of the boat, so my line was right next to the chum! Frank was only eight feet away from the chum pot and feeding fish, but may as well have been a mile.

A large pot should be considered a necessity, and will cost a good ten to fifteen dollars. But it is a good investment because it will last for years and can also be used for flounder, blackfish, seabass, striped bass, etc. Additional weight must be added to the bottom of the pot by pouring in molten lead or just putting heavy sinkers inside. This extra weight is necessary to keep the pot on the bottom close to the boat where it will do the most good. It also acts as a double anchor, preventing the boat from swinging back and forth on the anchor line. Use twice as much line as the maximum depth you expect to anchor in—3/8 inch nylon or plastic line 100 feet long usually will do the job. A good trick is to store your pot in an empty 30 lb. chum tin—coil the line into the bottom of the can as you pull the pot up and put the pot right on top of the coiled line, ready to go for the next drop. It also keeps the chum from spilling out all over the deck every time the pot is brought into the boat.

The best chum I have found for porgies (and most bottom species) is clam bellies. Frozen in quart milk cartons, the solid block of frozen chum fits perfectly in the large chumpot and will slowly defrost in the water, sending a steady stream of clam juices and tidbits of meat into the current. The porgies will follow this slick to its source and come right up to the pot and actually eat the chum through the wire mesh. You will know when the pot is running low by the porgies thinning out because there isn't enough chum to hold them at the boat. So when the action begins to slow noticeably, it's time to recharge the pot.

Chumming with clam bellies has the added advantage of luring an occasinal striped bass. Last year at Montauk I took over a dozen bass while porgy fishing, including fish of 18 and 24 pounds. When stripers move into the chum slick you will be tipped off by the abrupt disappearance of the porgies. Keep a spare rod rigged with a 3/0 beak baitholder hook tied directly to the line and put a few clam bellies on it. Put an eighth or quarter ounce rubber core sinker three or four feet above the hook because the bass will usually be swimming deep because your chum slick is right on the bottom. When you suspect the presence of stripers, feed the clam "meatbass" into the current and keep your fingers crossed.

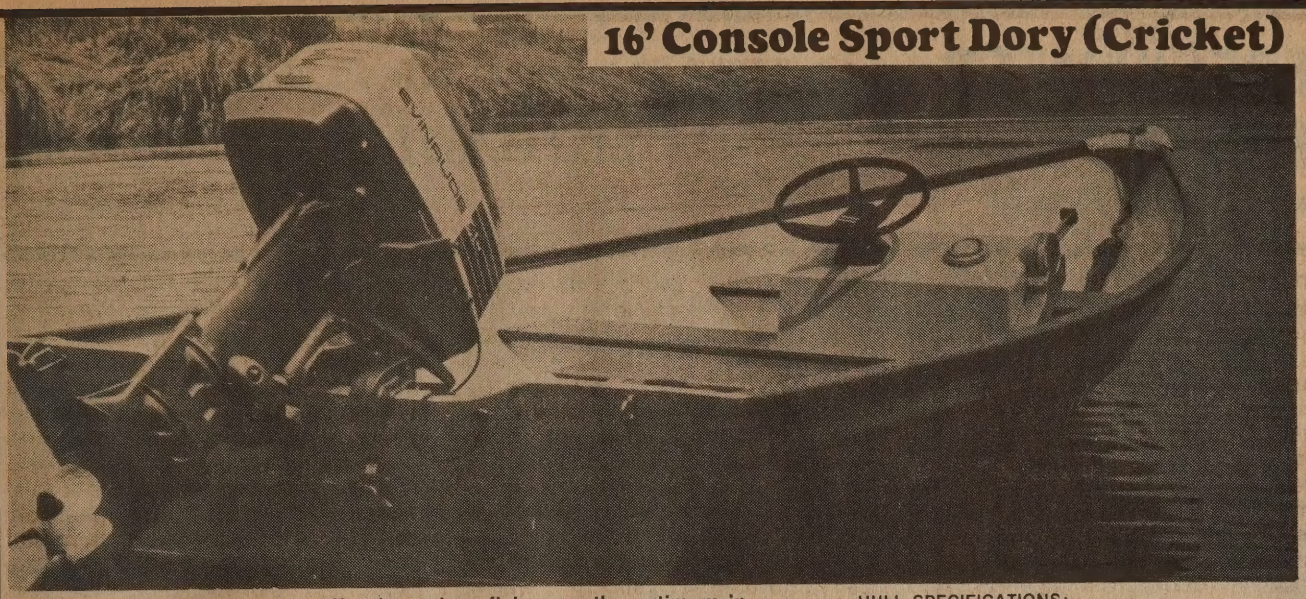
Ground mossbunker is also an excellent chum for porgies but won't get you any bonus bass. Cracked mussels are great, too, but are near-impossible to purchase in the summer months so be prepared to acquire your own supply. Mussels can be cracked and placed in the chumpot or liberally scattered under the boat. Make sure that the mussels are thrown into the water up current so than when they reach bottom they aren't far behind the boat where they can have a negative effect. Ground mackerel should also be a fairly effective chum, although I have yet to try it. But there is one chum I haven't tried that I'm sure will be real dynamite—scallop guts, which were used for the first time last fall by fishermen for flounder with great success.

Honors for the best porgy bait goes hands-down to the skimmer clam. Whenever possible obtain whole clams in the shell because they are much less expensive than frozen skimmers, are more effective, the flesh is firmer and stays on the hook better and any clams left over at the end of the day may be shucked and frozen for subsequent usage. Frozen skimmers cannot be refrozen and still be an effective bait. Unfortunately, whole skimmers are usually difficult to obtain by an angler except during the cod season. The only places where they may be obtained year round to my knowledge are Montauk and Woodcleft Canal in Freeport.

As with hooks, the small mouth of the porgy calls for equally small baits to accommodate it. Large baits will only be pecked at and quickly removed from the hook. Small baits will usually be engulfed entirely with the hook, which is the point of the matter. Bait should be cut to about the size of the joint of the tip of your pinky, (Surveys have shown that bait cut to the size of the right pinky joint outfish the left pinky joint.) Cut the bait so that you have a little bit of the bellie part of the clam with the hard meat of the tongue. The lips running around the outside of the shell and the hard muscle that opens and closes the shell are very good and can be picked out of the clam bellies. Thread the clam on the hook as many times as possible, being careful to allow the point of the hook to protrude for quick penetration.

Squid will also take porgies but considerably less effective than clam. Cut rectangular pieces 1½ to 2 inches long and a half inch wide and thread it on the hook. The best bet is to bait the top hook of your rig with a 4 inch long pennant shaped squid strip for seabass, which are often mixed in with the porgies. Hook the squid in the wide end once and allow it to flutter in the current. Sand or blood worms are also very effective (particularly with the smaller fish) but are a unnesessary expense when clams are available. If you ever run into a bind by running out of bait, take a porgy and fillet it on both sides and cut the meat into half-inch squares. It may not be the greatest bait going, but is effective enough to save an early return to the dock. If you are using clam bellies for chum, let the squares of fish soak in the bellies awhile to absorb some of the clam juice.

Hooking a porgy is undoubtably the most difficult aspect of porgy fishing. The smallness of their mouths and the manner that they attack the bait combine to make the porgy the greatest bait thief around except for the bergall. There isn't any absolute rule that can be followed as to when to strike a biting fish because it will often vary with the stage of tide, how hungry they are and how many porgies are around. But there are



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different guidelines to follow and methods to try until you hit upon the one that will produce fish on a particular day.

If the porgies are very thick in an area and are swarming all around the chumpot your baited hooks will be attacked as soon as they enter the feeding zone, which is up to three feet from the bottom. Because there is a lot of competition around for a bite to eat, they will throw caution to the wind and pounce on the biat, often taking it into their mouths entirely if the bait is small enough. As soon as the porgy tries to swallow the bait he will feel the hook and spit it out, sans bait. It is extremely rare to gut-hook a porgy—they will be lip-hooked the vast majority of the time.

All of the above will take place in a flash. Now, if you are the easy-going, cane-pole variety of fishermen, you're in big trouble—chances are good you will constantly be reeling in a baitless hook and no fish, without ever having felt a bite! The reason is that by the time your sinker touches bottom, put the reel on lock and take in the slack line, the porgies have all ready cleaned you. So get down quickly and be ready to strike as soon as possible.

The second, and more difficult, hooking situation occurs when the porgies are sparsely distributed around the boat. When this situation occurs, the porgies have a little more time to be cautious when they spot your bait. They will circle around it, taking quick little pecks at any part of the bait that is protruding. This is when the porgies bait stealing talents are at their finestand it often becomes a real challenge to sink the hook in a fish. Your best bet is to experiment with different moments to set the hook until you arrive at the instant that will produce the most fish. As a rule-of-thumb, the best moment to strike is when you even think a porgy is SMELLING the bait—in other words, fast as your reflexes will allow. However, there are times when you will have to let the porgies play with the bait for a considerable period of time, so don't make the mistake of constantly using the same hooking technique just because it produced fish on an earlier date.

If you are lucky enough to own a boat and want to load the freezer with porgies, now is the time to head for Montauk Point or the Peconic Bays. If you go the party boat route, there are boats sailing daily for porgies from Montauk, Greenport, Shinnecock Canal, Port Jefferson, Huntington and Freeport. But wherever and however you go porgy fishing, be prepared to have a ball with one of the scrappiest little fish around!

FRESHWATER FISHING
with Angelo Peluso

LETHAL LURE

If we were to trace the historical path to modern day angling, we would find substantial evidence showing that the artificial lure (in the form of the dry fly) was used to entice fish as early as third century Macedonia.

Since this early beginning, lures have come a very long way. Some of the more interesting changes have come within the area of bass fishing. Bassin' lures have developed out of a need to adapt to constantly changing circumstances. The wide array of such lures can be very perplexing to the novice, but can also be a blessing to the avid bass angler.

In the course of lure development a number of relatively recent lure designs tend to stand out from the rest, one of which happens to be the artificial plastic worm. The worm has proven itself to be the most consistent bass catcher of all-time. This lethal lure accounts for more bass during the course of a season than any of the other commercially manufactured products. I believe that this effectiveness is directly related to the versatility of the plastic worm. It can be fished in a number of ways and under a number of conditions. I have chosen to discuss this lure for I feel that it can add a new dimension to any angler's bass fishing.

The worm has the potential to be fished as either a top water pad and weed lure or as a bottom bouncing morsel. The sizes and shapes that are presently being marketed also enable the angler to adapt the worm to other popular bass lures. Examples of this are the jig and eel combinations and the use of small worm tails on spinner baits.

In pad, weed and shallow water situations I like to fish the worm unweighted. I rig the lure by threading a 2/0 weedless hook through the head of the worm and out the under portion of the body. The hook point is exposed approximately one inch down from the head. With this setup the worm is able to slither, unhindered, over and around the pads. The weightlessness enables the fisherman to work the lure as a vibrating and pulsating "living" worm. Also, the absence of weight will allow the worm to slowly flutter to the bottom in shallow areas.

As stated, this form of rig is for use primarily in shallow water. It is not very practical for use in water deeper than five or six feet since the angler loses much control when bottom bouncing. In deep water situations many bassmen prefer to use a slip sinker or Texas rig setup. With this arrangement, a hook point is placed through the worm head, drawn out, inverted and placed back into the worm body. When a strike is made to set the hook, it is necessary to first draw the hook through the plastic prior to setting it in the fish. Another characteristic of the Texas rig is that of the slip sinker. The purpose of the weight (which is bullet-shaped, concave and threaded onto the line) is to allow the worm to get down into the fish zone in a hurry, but yet allow a fish to inhale the lure without the weight of the sinker. Even though this method of rigging works for some, I still prefer to pinch on one or two split shot to the hook shank or six to eight inches above, should additional weight be necessary. The split shot has the tendency to make the lure one complete offering, while the slip sinker can possibly add a bit of resistance that bass will detect almost immediately.

Now, a word on retrieves. When spot casting in shallow areas I like to vary my method of retrieve. After a cast is made, the worm should be allowed to settle to the bottom and then either "bounced" back or reeled slowly. As an alternate method, the worm can be kept near the surface by keeping the rod tip high. When utilizing this approach I like to vibrate the rod tip thereby imparting a "wiggling" action to the worm. The constant motion of the retrieved worm seems to be too much for the bass to resist. The wiggle retrieve has been productive for me when casting into and around pads and wrecks. Bass, on occassion, will violently attack a wiggled worm within a few feet of the boat. Retrieves should also be intermittently altered by changing the speed of the retrieve, since Mr. Bass's preferences will be constantly changing, from day to day or during the course of the same day.

When fishing the Texas rig, the accepted retrieve methods are: bottom bouncing (jig fashion), slow reeling and movement of the worm by means of raising and lowering of the rod, taking in necessary slack. When a tap is felt the angler should give the fish a rod's length of line before hauling back to set the hook.

Speaking of hook setting, I would like to add that this can be a very tricky affair when fishing with worms. As a matter of practicality, I have become a line watcher. The first indicator of a hit is usually a twitching movement of the line; a quick and erratic change of direction. This "pick-up" is the most critical phase in worming. If the fisherman responds too soon the worm will land back in his lap. A late response and the fish will most likely drop the lure as if it were a hot potato.

Though I miss my share of hits, I have found that one important key to a successful day of worming is to make careful note of how the bass take and mouth the worm. I have always maintained that a miss can teach you as much, if not more, than a score.

If you find that the bass are hitting rather short, it might be necessary to give an additional bit of line to allow the fish to take in more of the worm, thereby having it positioned somewhat better when you strike. Sometimes quickly setting the hook will be the secret to success, while on other occassions a few second lapse is necessary before you can "cross his eyes". You will also find that bass will sometimes hit a weightless worm fished shallow in the same manner that would hit a plug. In this instance your best bet would be to strike back quickly. The success ratio for hooked fish will depend to a great degree upon the angler's ability to "read" the type of strike. Bass react in different ways and the wise angler will have to adjust accordingly.

Colors are one thing that the truly avid worm fisherman will always concern himself with. Examining a bassin' man's worm box and I am totally certain that the selection of colors will span the entire range of the spectrum. Some may question the effectiveness of many of the completely "unnatural" looking worms, but believe you me each has a time and place, where and when it will meet the task. Having tried just about all of the colors that are presently offered on the market, I have settled on black, purple and red as the mainstay of my collection. These darker shades have been consistent producers for me, and

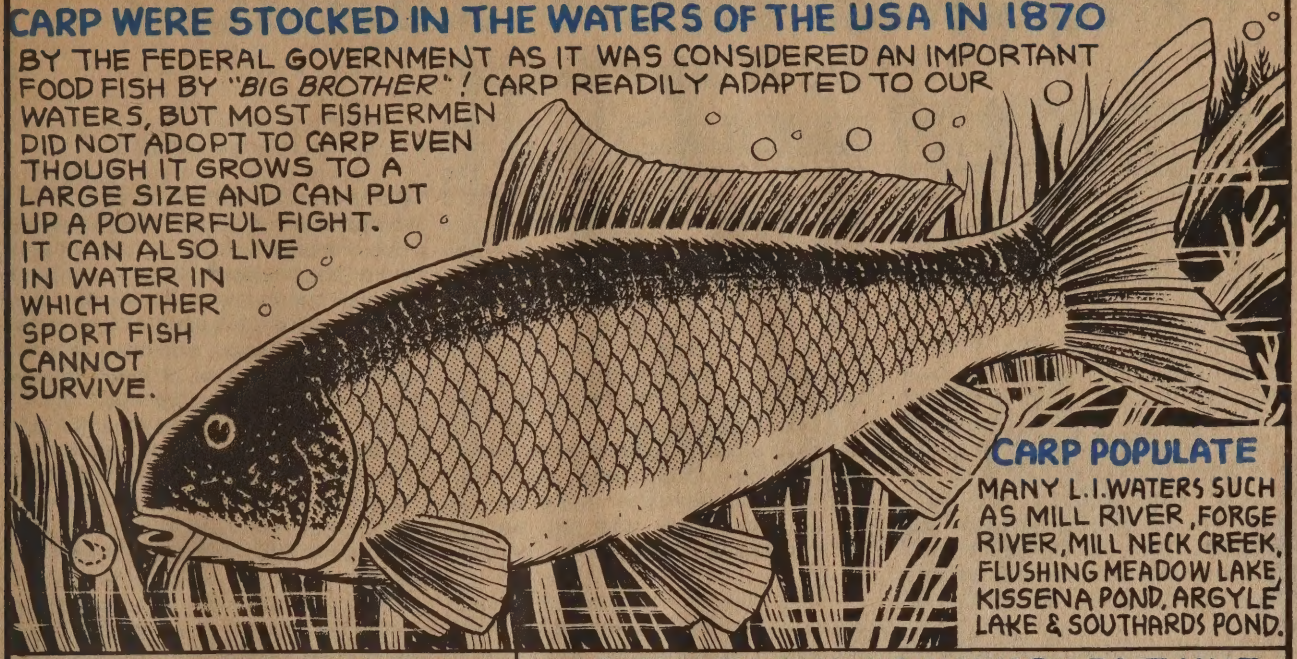
(Continued on page 45.)

FISHING & HUNTING CARP

BY FRED GUARDINEER

CARP WERE STOCKED IN THE WATERS OF THE USA IN 1870

BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AS IT WAS CONSIDERED AN IMPORTANT FOOD FISH BY "*BIG BROTHER*"! CARP READILY ADAPTED TO OUR WATERS, BUT MOST FISHERMEN DID NOT ADOPT TO CARP EVEN THOUGH IT GROWS TO A LARGE SIZE AND CAN PUT UP A POWERFUL FIGHT. IT CAN ALSO LIVE IN WATER IN WHICH OTHER SPORT FISH CANNOT SURVIVE.



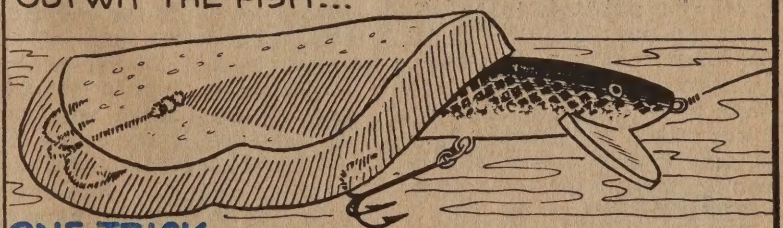
CARP POPULATE MANY L.I. WATERS SUCH AS MILL RIVER, FORGE RIVER, MILL NECK CREEK, FLUSHING MEADOW LAKE, KISSENA POND, ARGYLE LAKE & SOUTHARDS POND.

CARP ARE TAKEN BY BAIT

FISHING, FLY FISHING, SPEARING AND WITH BOW AND ARROW. FOR THE ANGLER-ARCHER, CARP IN SHALLOW WATER CAN BE EXTREMELY WARY, REQUIRING CAREFUL STALKING TO GET WITHIN SHOOTING RANGE. FOR BOW HUNTING CARP, EITHER A FISHING OR SMALL GAME HUNTING LICENSE IS REQUIRED. IT IS A GOOD WAY TO PREPARE FOR THE DEER BOW-HUNTING SEASON.

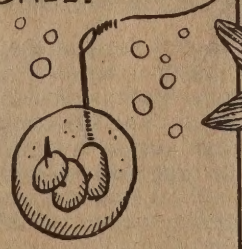
CARP CAN BE CAUGHT ON WORM BAIT LIKE

MOST FRESHWATER FISH, BUT L.I. CARP SPECIALISTS OFTEN USE A VARIETY OF BAITS AND TRICKS TO OUTWIT THE FISH...



ONE TRICK IS TO WRAP A FLOATING PLUG IN A PIECE OF BREAD AND LET IT FLOAT OUT. CARP USED TO FEEDING ON BREAD SLICES MAY GET HOOKED.

STANDARD BAIT IS A COUPLE OF KERNELS OF CORN INSIDE A BREAD DOUGH BALL.



BREAD WRAPPED AROUND BOBBER DISINTIGRATES CHUMMING THE AREA AROUND LINE WITH SEVERAL BAITED HOOKS.

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Fishing the Plankton

by Walter Beattie

Several years ago there was a sand bar on the inlet side of West End Beach at a point halfway between the radio shack and the Short Beach Coast Guard Station. The bar projected out from the shoreline like a hook, entrapping a body of water between it and the shore. We referred to it as "The Lagoon."

The Lagoon was a shallow body of water with the open end of the hook facing the incoming tide. Baitfish would sweep into this protected water to escape the swift current of the inlet. There they would remain until the incoming tide reached a height sufficient to cut and overflow the bar, then sweep them back into the main body of the inlet until the tide became so high the bar would be completely awash.

We usually timed our trips to coincide with the outgoing tide when baitfish were being swept along the outside of the bar. Here stray bass would hang in close to the sharp drop-off, or an occasional school would work its way past.

We usually fished the area at twilight into darkness. If you wanted to work at it, you could also catch strays at midday and occasionally you could pick up fluke or bass from the lagoon by casting from the bar toward the land. But most of the time the action was on the inlet side of the bar and not in the lagoon, itself.

The bar was the best of the spots we knew of, and had a group of experts whom we called the "regulars" who constantly fished the same general area. Wherever you found the regulars, you could be sure that there would be, or had been, fish around.

Such was the case one cool August evening when Frank Bernarducci and I arrived at twilight to see the regulars clustered together at the land end of the bar, awaiting the initial vertical drop in water level which usually accompanied the beginning of the outflow.

After the tide began to flow out, the depth across the bar would be about three feet of swirling, swiftly moving water, and one had to gingerly inch outward to take up a position. The churning action of the current would often create invisible potholes in the sand. Blundering into one of these holes was not a joyful experience, as there was no place to go except up. Ever tried treading air?

We nevertheless impatiently pushed outward, crossing the cuts, trying to gauge by memory the position of the bar below the water. By the time we took a position between a few of the regulars, the water level had dropped sufficiently for one to see the bottom, and there was still enough light to try casting with the popping plugs.

Frank and I both used one-handed, seven-and-a-half foot light action rods, the use of which we sort of pioneered in this area, where the fish tended to be generally small and close to shore. Heavier equipment was simply not necessary and the light line and plugs were more fun to use and could give more action to the plug.

We cast out the five-eighth ounce Striper Strike plugs for about half an hour without a strike, and from what we could see, by constantly checking out the fifteen or more fishermen lined on either side of us, no one else was getting an action either. Finally, when we could no longer distinguish the splash of the popper due to the increasing darkness, we switched to the Rebel floating plugs which were the basic piece of hardware in the kit. The little, blue three or five and one-half inch versions accounted for most of the fish we ever caught, as they were ideal for mimicking the swimming action of the spearing which were the basic prey of the bass in the inlet.

After several casts of the Rebel, I began to get that sense of emptiness that usually accompanies the notion that "there ain't no fish around" and, sure enough, just as it came to me. a few of the regulars started moving past us on their way toward shore.

"Quitting early, aren't you?" I chided as they passed by.

"Never catch fish with plankton in the water," one replied. "You guys might as well quit too," said the other.

Frank and I both looked down to the water and noticed for the first time the tiny glimmers of light swirling past our waders. Watching for a few seconds we could see that this was going to be one of the heaviest concentrations of plankton we had ever seen. We watched with some fascination what must have been trillions of these phosphorescent microscopic animals (or plants?) flowing by in the current, each giving of a tiny glimmer of light when agitated by the impact with our waders. By trailing the plug in the water, a stream of light could be seen as much as two feet in length behind the plug, like the tail of a comet. This was the basis of the popularly-held contention that fish could not be caught in the presence of plankton, which would literally outline or silhouette the plug so that no fish would be fooled into thinking the plug was something edible. Even the monofilament line trailed the blue-green light of the plankton, which was becoming seemingly brighter than before, by contrast with the ever-darkening waters of this moonless night.

By the time we left the water "to light up a cigarette and talk it over," all the other fishermen had left the beach and we were alone.

As we were discussing our disappointment, we began to speculate as to what the fish might do under these conditions. They couldn't just disappear or stop swimming. They couldn't stop eating, or at least one would expect them not to. After all, the plankton were always there to one degree or another, and it was just that on moonless nights they became more visible, making anything that moved through the water more visible.

If anything, we speculated, the bass should be more active on a night like this, as any baitfish that moved would become visible, or so we thought.

On the other hand we figured that maybe all the fish just lay low at this time because, aren't the bass equally visible to the baitfish? And, therefore, easier to avoid? Aren't the bass also more visible to other species that may easily prey on them under these conditions? In any case, everything I had read about the subject written by the old "fish masters" said that there were "no fish caught under these

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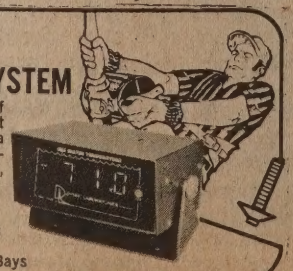

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conditions." Furthermore, the regulars whom we regarded as experts had left, so who cares what the fish are doing if you can't catch them?

Despite the hopelessness of the situation, we decided we would experiment and, if noting else, maybe we would learn something. We decided to spook the bait in the lagoon to see if it would leave any kind of a light trail.

The lagoon was now down to about a three-foot depth, and absolutely calm, as we waded in about thirty feet apart, occasionally switching on the neck lamp to see if there was any bait around. There was no glowing light that we could make out coming from the bait that had been seen in the light of the neck lamp, and when I was about knee deep, I began to wonder if there were plankton in the area. A kick of my foot to splash the water drew a flash of glowing plankton all about me, as well as another flash to my right, half the distance toward Frank.

"Did you see that?" I asked, simultaneously with his exclaiming, "Hey, I just saw a flash over here."

Except he was pointing to his right, not anywhere near where I had seen the flash. My pulse jumped with the realization that it might have been a bass, and I was actually shaking when, after suggesting to Frank that I would hold still while he moved toward me, I saw a distant flash—ten foot long, directly in front of me—that could only have come from a large fish moving very quickly through the water. What's more, he must have stopped no more than twenty feet away.

I slipped the Rebel off the guide and flicked a cast in the general direction of where I saw the flash end, with my leg muscles stiffened for fear that I might move and spook him again. I took a short breath and twitched the rod tip. The water erupted in a fountain of luminescence as a twenty-inch bass tailspun across the lagoon with the Rebel hooked firmly in his jaw.

I must have done a lot of yelling of instructions to Frank about "don't retrieve—just twitch it." In fact, as I remember it, Frank did some yelling, too, after he tied into one before I even landed mine, especially when we both saw any number of other flashes all about us and realized we had waded into an entire school of feeding bass.

With all the racket we were making, it was not long before we were joined by five other fishermen who appeared out of nowhere. They, too, yelled back and forth as their activities spooked the bait even more. The more the bait moved, the more intensely the fish fed until, for awhile, it seemed we were surrounded by flashes of dull green light passing behind, between and sometimes within inches of where we were standing.

For the next hour, a moment did not pass in which one of the seven of us were not playing a splashing, dancing bass. They were more visible, moving through the plankton, than they would have been in broad daylight, and on more than one occasion I was able to track the path of a bass as it moved with incredible speed toward the plug. From as much as ten or twelve feet away these fish were able to zero in, move, and strike the plug in pitch dark-under water!

It was ironic to consider that this fish, possessed of such keeness of sight and such prowess, was being fooled by a piece of plastic on a string.

Of the fourteen fish Frank and I caught, eleven were returned "for next year." All were over the legal size, but none were bigger than five pounds.

We both agreed the key to catching them were the absolutely still lake-like water of the lagoon and not retrieving the plug—just "twitching it."

Unfortunately, the lagoon is gone now, along with the bar, swept away by a storm a few years back. We haven't been able to find another body of water like it. If you know of one, be sure to try it next time the plankton are about—but don't tell any experts about it. What they don't know will hurt you!

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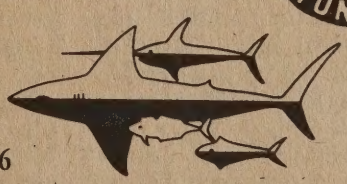


Return of the Sea Bass

by Frank Berrafato

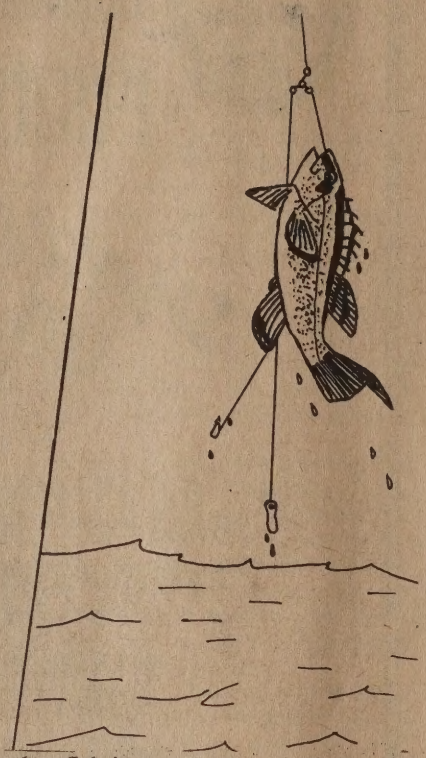
Ranging the Atlantic coastal waters from Cape Cod to the northern segment of Florida, the sea bass (*Centropristes striatus*) is the namesake of the huge sea bass family, which numbers hundreds of tropical representatives. The striped bass is a local salt water relative.

Wide distribution of the sea bass encourages many local names—Black Will, Black Harry, talywag, and hannabill, just to name a few—and his reappearance in 1973 after a long conspicuous absence was welcomed by many Long Island fishermen.

Last year sea bass began to appear in porgy catches in certain areas of Long Island Sound, such as Port Jefferson, 'miller Place, Rocky Point and Promised Land. Not many, but enough to anticipate a growing population of this excellent-tasting fish.

This writer first became acquainted with the sea bass in the early 1950's, then kind of a heyday for this species, in Reynolds Channel and in the many deep creeks and waterways which crisscross the area behind Point Lookout and Long Beach. A small killie on a tiny hook was an effective bait for these fish, but this meant trouble if a doormat fluke grabbed the bait, something that happened many times.

Its physical characteristics enable the sea bass to be easily identified. Large fins make the body appear larger than actual size. The tail fin is distinctively shaped, roughly like a lazy "S," and in larger specimen one of the upper rays of the tail is elongated to form a filament-like trailer (See illustration.) The only



other fish in our waters which has this characteristic elongated tail fin is the kingfish. Adult male sea bass develop a fatty mound on their backs, just forward of the dorsal fin, hence the name—"humpback." The color scheme varies: blue-grayish, smoky brown, indigo, mixtures of blue and black, and near-black.

Sea bass inhabit waters ranging from a few feet in depth to offshore waters of 70 fathoms. In past good years, spring and summer brought hordes of small sea bass ("pin bass") into inshore bays and harbors, while the larger fish (over 1 pound) were found offshore. Being a bottom feeder, he prefers water that is clear, clean, and reasonably deep. His haunts include the vicinity of wrecks, rocky areas, along breakwaters, bridge abutments, long-submerged timbers and other debris, and piles supporting cocks and trestles, where the sea bass has learned to prowl over stony bottoms and shellfish beds in search of barnacles, mussels, and small crustaceans.

Because of their large, tough mouths, sea bass are easy to hook. They signal their presence with a series of deliberate tugs, followed by a hard pull as they swallow the bait. Good baits include the tough sections of skimmer clams, squid cut into 4-inch strips, shrimp, crabs, mollusks of various kinds, and small fish such as sand eels and young mossbunkers.

Chumming frequently pays off when fishing for sea bass. An old trick used by many sea bass fishermen is to fill a chum pot or weighted burlap bag with crushed mussels and clams, mixed with cornmeal. The cornmeal absorbs the clam juices and helps to form a steady slick which stretches out the chum by slowly releasing the juices.

Sea bass are known to be curious fish. They swim into unbaited lobster pots for no apparent reason other than curiosity: many are taken for the market in this way.

One of the chief enemies of the sea bass is the bluefish. North Carolina fishermen report that the blues interrupt their northern migration each spring to feed on sea bass, which are very plentiful on the reefs.

Like the porgy, the sea bass has needle-sharp dorsal fin spines. When removing the hook, hold the fish by the lower jaw. Since they have no teeth, the thumb can be inserted into the mouth; this will immobilize the fish and provide a good grip.

Baked, fried, boiled or broiled, sea bass are a fine table fish, and their return to the Long Island area should be of interest to all fishermen who ply these waters.

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Bass Like to Swim Here, Too!

by Capt. Zac Grossman

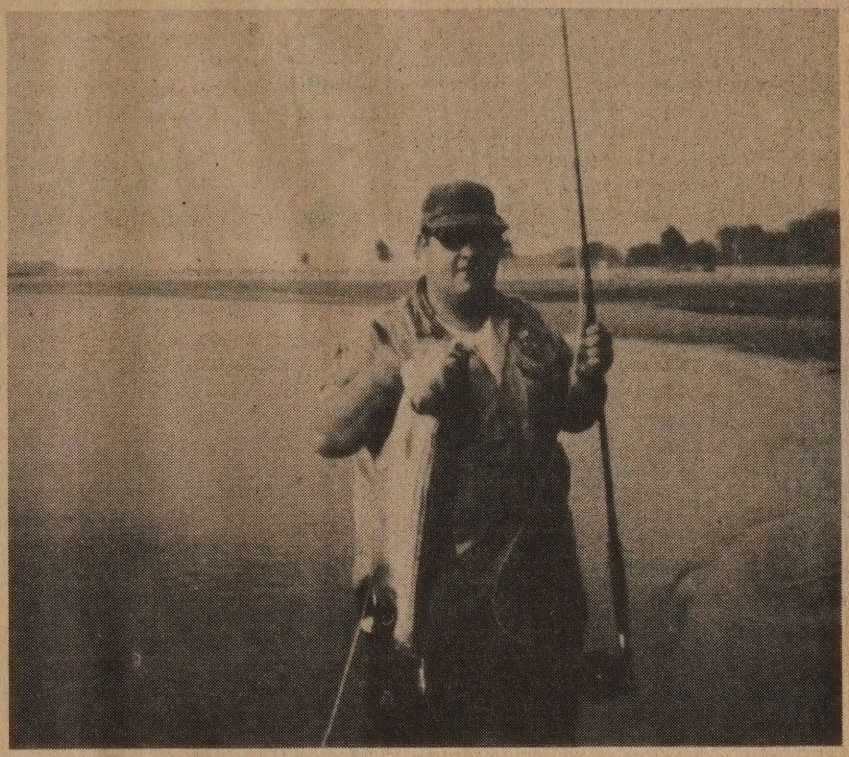
There is an angling thrill I think each of you should experience, as it combines the thrill of light tackle fishing with the pleasure of "being with nature". Let me describe this scene as it happened to me just recently.

I was standing knee deep in water so calm it appeared to have a film on it. The footing under my feet was firm and easy to wade and there was not a breath of wind. As the first musical notes of an awakening bird drifted out of the trees behind me, I noticed a reddish-brown tinge at the horizon. With each passing minute the sky grew paler until suddenly the first rays of sunlight crept over the horizon, turning the underside of the high flying clouds a brilliant pink. I just stood there watching this awesome spectacle as if I had never seen it before.

I sent a backcast high over my head as I suddenly remembered why I had come here in the first place. I followed it with a strong forward cast which carried my flyrod popper out over the now orange water. I gave the line a jerk, causing the lure to send a small shower of spray into the air. Before the droplets could fall back they were met by a violent eruption that broke up the surface reflections for yards around. I set the hook and watched the rod arc toward the water as the fish started his first powerful run. The realization that there was not a rock or snag within a thousand feet made the fight all the more enjoyable as I loosened the drag to prolong the fight.

The water had once again become glass-like as the fish chose to fight it out in the depths. First he ran up the beach to the right, then down the beach to the left, but there was nothing on the bottom for him to cut the line on. He then decided to slug it out on the surface. I watched the motion of the line as it seemed to shoot across the water to the point where the fish would emerge. It was a beautiful sight as he broke through the surface, shaking his head and dartwheeling in an attempt to shake the annoying thing that kept tugging at his mouth. He fell back into the water with a great splash that shattered the quiet peace of the morning.

After a few more jumps he was growing tired. I got him under control and heading reluctantly toward shore. As I started to back up out of the water to beach him I noticed that I had



attracted a small group of early morning joggers waiting around impatiently for the outcome. I soon slid my prize up the gently-sloping shore and to their amazement lifted a shimmering 12 pound bass into the air.

One of the joggers stepped forward, glancing back and forth between me and the fish, and finally said, "How did you catch that fish here? This is a swimming beach." I smiled at him and replied, "Bass like to swim here, too".

Striped bass seem to really like the still waters that are common to the swimming beaches of Long Island Sound. These beaches are usually gently-sloping, firm-bottomed and bordered by jetties and breakwaters. There is usually a nearby parking lot as well. The beach holds some attraction for the baitfish that spend the night here, and they in turn attract the stripers.

I find dawn to be the magic time of day for this kind of fishing, with the action lasting until about 8:00 A.M. This is just fine because the lifeguards come on duty about 8:30 and order the fisherman to leave anyway. The fish are usually schoolies ranging from three to 15 pounds, with the average around five pounds. On a good morning, it's quite possible to land a dozen of these fish.

When I fish these areas I like to use really light tackle because there is plenty of room to let the fish run. I take two outfits with me; one flyrod 8' in length, with a WF6F line and six pound test leaders. The other is a 6' spinning rig loaded with four pound test line. The baitfish are usually small and this light tackle is well-suited to "watching the hatch". With the flyrod I use small, homemade poppers. If I decide to fish under the surface I prefer to use the spin rig with Rebels, Bait Tails, tins, etc.

When using one outfit, I clip the other to the small lure bag I carry so that I can walk the beach and be prepared for any action. I start at a point where the path from the parking lot ends and then continue on down the beach, either left or right. It's very important to remember that stripers often work right up to the water's edge and are easily spooked at this time. I make a few casts standing well back from the water's edge before wading in. Once you startle a school of bass and watch them scatter in all directions you make a mental note never to let it happen again.

Once I've waded in (in warmer

(Continued on page 19.)

A Tree Offshore

by Allen Planz

Coming back from shark fishing some twenty-five miles southeast of Montauk one afternoon late one August, I stopped the skiff to pull in the lines we had out in hope of scaring up school tuna. It was a hot day. Visibility was not much more than a mile in humid haze, and we'd not seen another boat since leaving the Point at dawn.

All morning, sharks had swung up our chumline: we'd kept a big blue and a mako, released a couple, and lost more to snapped lines and weakened knots. Tired, still thrilling with the excitement of that furious fishing, I'd been hedging the compass a little west to compensate for the morning's drift. Now I wanted to get back fast; the tuna could wait. Suddenly I saw, not fifty yards away, a full-grown tree floating lengthwise in the swell.

"Hey! a tree," I yelled to Mike Wright, my fishing partner, who was in a funk from losing a huge shark after an hour and a half battle with 30-pound test on a boat rod. "Maybe there's dolphin." He came to attention. We broke out light spinning tackle and snapped on small spoons.

I approached the tree and cut the motor; we drifted alongside. Fish hit our lures simultaneously. My line raced sidewise through the water, throwing a little fantail, with the speed of the mako I'd caught earlier. A few minutes later we boated two small dolphin.

I angled the skiff in again. Our second casts were socked by three-pound bonito. My third cast was stopped by a fish that made short, punchy runs: it was a yellow jack. Mike landed another. He was beaming. We paused to take it all in...we had hit on something rare for us.

It was an uprooted elm, or some other broad-leaved hardwood, at least 60 feet long, with leaves still on branches that rose ten feet above the water and reached deeply below the trunk, where a host of free-swimming crabs and shrimp hid in the leaves and seaweeds. Nylon marine rope entwined it here and there, but there was no clue to the tree's origins. Probably drifting for weeks in the Gulfstream, its bulk and foliage had attracted creatures seeking food and shelter. On a high branch rested a tiny hooded warbler.

We made another drift. Our rods bucked with bonito. The wind was pushing us too fast, so we tied the 18-foot boat to a root and hauled in the dead sharks. Then we cast in every direction, and every cast was hit immediately.

This far out the sea still had that bluewater clarity, the fish stark against the deep blue tint. When the lure began working you could see the fish start converging, and you reeled faster. Only once before, when I'd come on a remote pool in the Adirondacks that had not been fished for decades, had I seen ten to twenty fair-sized fish chasing my lure. Cast after cast, right up to the boat, they tried to get the lure out of each other's jaws. Finally, though, they began to get shy.

Then Mike started throwing handsful of bunker chum over, and the sea quickened. Parrotfish dashed just under the surface, jacks tangled below, and down deep the flanks of bonito flashed. We wheeled and stumbled and

went hoarse with shouting. Other species I couldn't identify joined in. Probably tropical reef-dwellers, they were brightly colored, with yellow stripes, smoky purples, blue streaks, red spots. One huge shape drifted up, like an overgrown blackfish with a square head, opened a white mouth, took a morsel and sank like a cod.

Soon afterward we quit. It was too much. Our plastic garbage can was brimming. The boat was a mess and we were sunburned. Fish still milled about, waiting for handouts. We didn't want to leave, but an hour or more run lay ahead of us.

That evening, back at the dock near Cove Marina, our sharks got as much attention as the others hanging from the beams. But when we started laying out what came from the pail, a crowd gathered and arguments over species started. We had jack crevalle, dolphin blue runner, yellow jack, parrotfish, bonito, bluefish, and two species nobody knew. A call went out to the Oceanographic Laboratory and later somebody came down to pick up the specimens..

A day later we invited everyone we knew to a cookout on the beach. We served broiled blue shark steaks (which were pretty good, even if you had mako first,) and five different fish platters. Then, with well-filled bellies, we speculated on how it would have been had we been much quieter...or with fly rods... or at night...or, if it wasn't a navigational hazard, how about anchoring a tree offshore?

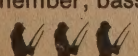
BASS LIKE IT HERE!

(Continued from page 17.)

weather it's enjoyable to forego using waders), I fan out my casts so that I cover a semicircular area with alternating retrieves; one fast, one slow. I like to start with a popper and then keep switching to deeper and deeper running lures until I get to the bottom. Then I move down the beach a hundred or so yards and start all over again.

I've noticed that most of these fish don't give away their presence until they strike. I've seldom seen them actively feeding, so it's important to stay alert so you don't miss the strike when it comes.

If the sight of a beautiful sunrise turns you on, and fighting a gamefish on light tackle makes your heart pound, then this kind of fishing is for you. And remember, bass like to swim here, too.



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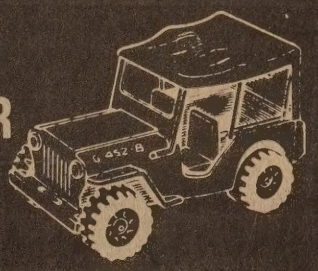

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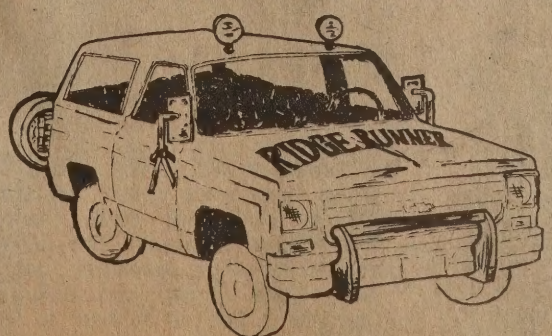

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This 505 lb. Dusky was caught by Dave Brenzel of East Northport fishing with Capt. Frank Mundus aboard the "Cricket II", on July 16. Both white and blue marlin were seen on this trip. Photo courtesy of the "Modar I".

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Capt. Dick Vigilant of the **Triton II** said that last week was very good for large monster bluefish at Cartwright but that it died completely this week. Striped bass are very good for this time of year. Six to 12 fish up to 20 lbs. are being taken trolling in the Pollack Rip each trip. The North Rips and Midway are also producing a few bass. Fluke are very good in the North Rips, Midway Rips and at can #5 inshore. Dick's son Michael the "Mouse" took a nine pound doormat during the week. Trolling bluefish at the Submarine Buoy has been super good for fish 8 to 10 lbs. A few green bonito (excellent eating) are also being picked up trolling.

Capt. George McTurck of the charterboat **Sportfisher** confirmed the excellent bluefishing at the Submarine Buoy. Trolling umbrella rigs is producing between 40 and 70 blues for a half day trip. The Point itself is slow with small bluefish and scattered bass and it's not very consistant. A couple of Marlin have been taken offshore around the Butterfish Hole and there are still plenty of sharks around including Makos.

Capt. Frank Pike of the charterboat **Leatherneck** said that bluefish 10 to 12

These bass were caught on the "Hurry Up" with Capt. Frank Braddick of Montauk. The lucky anglers are John Jazomber, John Bies, Duke Ferrari and George Dietrich. A total of 16 bass to 25 lbs. and 20 bluefish were taken for the day.

Here we have some of the blues caught aboard the Marlin III which sails out of Montauk everyday.

lbs. are being taken on all tides trolling at the Submarine buoy. Blues, duskies and a few mako sharks are being chummed up 2 hours south of the Point. Smaller bluefish and striped bass are being taken inshore on umbrella and jigged bucktails.

Capt. John Sweetman of the **Ebb Tide** called the fluking unreal around buoy 5 and the fishing at the Midway Rips is getting bigger and better quantities o fluke every day. Fish are being taken on all tides, including slack water. On Sunday, the charterboat took 162 fluke including a few of 6 and a few of 8 pounders for a party of five. There were very few throwbacks. On Saturday, the **Ebb Tide** hooked up with a giant Great White Shark while chumming at the 42 fathom line southeast of the Point. The shark, estimated to be about 18 feet long and in excess of 2,000 lbs., was on for a total of 3 hours and 5 minutes and never stopped taking line. Finally, as darkness approached, the anglers were forced to sock up on the drag and the 100 lb. mono eventually parted.

Ronnie D'Albora of the **Gone Fishing Marina** reported good fishing for almost anything you cared to go for. Inshore fluking is excellent at can 5 at Blackfish Rock, weakfish are the best ever in the evenings at Rocky Point inshore of can 5 on white bucktails with porkrind. Blues all over the place taking anything you throw at them and many triple headers on umbrella rigs. Porgies large and plentiful north of the Light, the Elbow, Great Eastern but chumming with clam bellies are a must. There are very few bass around.

Capt. Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** said that the porgy and seabass fishing continues at bonanza

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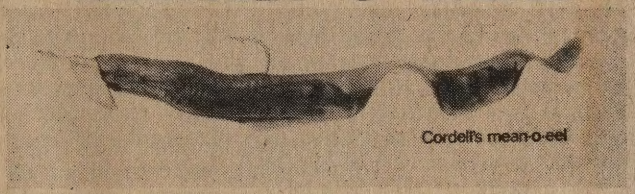

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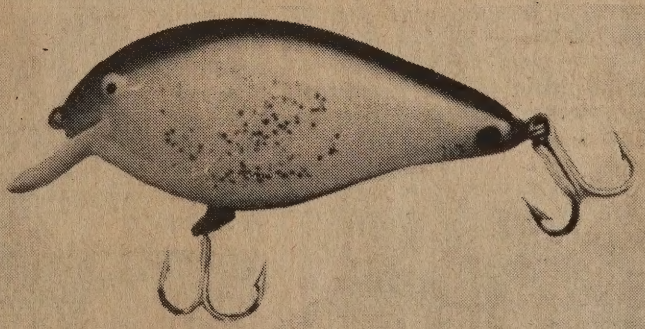

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proportions right around the lighthouse area. High hook during the week was Ed Bryan with 162 fish. John Carmichael of the Bronx scored with a 42 pound bonus striped bass that took his clam bait.

Capt. Whitey Bateman of the **Four Queens II** called to tell us of the successful offshore trip made on Friday. The party of Phil Carlo and the Scudera brothers took a 75 lb. mako in addition to 10 blue sharks. Ther area fished was 180 feet of water 180 degrees from the Point.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand of the **Promised Land Fishing Station** said that the porgy fishing slowed up a little on Friday and Saturday but picked up again on Sunday. Robert Mack and two friends took 3 bushels of nice porgies off Hicks Island on Saturday. Gardiners Island is also a good porgy area and should remain consistent until mid-October. The weather has made weakfishing difficult but the same class of fish is still around. Small blues are mixed in with the weakfish in the early morning. Still a few large fluke coming in from the Hicks Island area.

SAG HARBOR

Noyac Marina reports excellent fishing off the Monastery for large porgies and weakfish. Jerry Arma, Tommy Caruso Sr. and Jr. and Grace Caruso fished off the Monastery with squid strips on Saturday and bagged 27 weakfish 2½ to 5 lbs. Porgies mixed sizes a pound and up are all over the place and can be taken just about anywhere you decide to drop the anchor.

John Bowers with a catch of 16 fish aboard the Triton II last Wednesday. Subscriber Club Photo.

(Left to Right) Mate Mike, Ed Marino and David Malane with cod which weighed 49 and 44½ lbs. aboard the Peconic Queen II. Ed took the pool with the 49 lb. cod which was 192 dollars.

SHINNECOCK

Micky at **Altenkirch Tackle** said that the recent poor weather has seen few go out fishing, but those who did took bluefish inside and outside the inlet on anything they threw at them. Smaller bluefish are being taken in Shinnecock Bay. Quite a few fluke are being caught but there is still an abundance of shorts. Bass are being taken in the inlet at night on plugs, The Capt. Clark boats are doing an excellent job on the porgies in Peconic Bay and the weakfish, which have been picking up considerably.

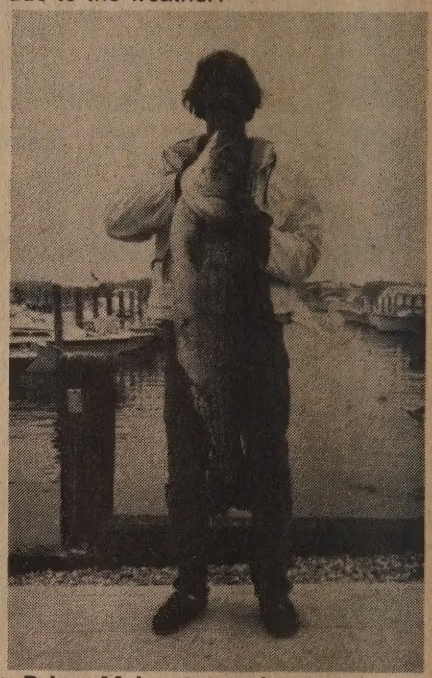
HAMPTON BAYS

Ernie at **Bradley's Fishing Station** reported excellent weakfishing and porgies for his rental skiffs in Peconic Bay. Fluke are plentiful in East Channel and the sand bars in the inlet. Fish range in size from shorts to 5 pounders. Best bet is sand eel and squid combo on any moving tide.

MORICHES BAY

Ben at **Tadsen's Fishing Station** told us that there are lots of fluke around, many short but getting larger. The fish are spread throughout the bay and there is no particular hot spot. Try the channels, inlet and flats. Fish up to 6¾ pounds were weighed in during the week. Meaty but small flounders are excellent in the deeper holes and channels. Blueclaw crabs are starting around buoy 29, many good size.

Al Lassen of the **Hi-Way Fishing Station** said that there is still plenty of fluke and flounder and some boats have been getting loads of bluefish in the inlet. One boat took 76 bluefish in a few short hours on Sunday drifting sandeels without and weight. Not too many big fluke around, still plenty of shorts. One boat took over 100 flounder on Sunday north of buoy 38. Betty Povolny tood 57 flounder by herself on a hand line in a hold south of the Fishing Station. Some tuna were taken on Saturday during the South Shore Marlin and Tuna Club Tournament. Sunday's fishing was cancelled due to the weather.



Brian Malunat caught this bass along with 14 bass taken aboard the "Marie II" of Montauk. The bass weighed 10 lbs. and up. Subscriber Club Photo.

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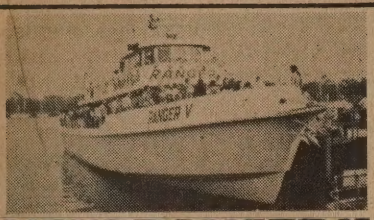

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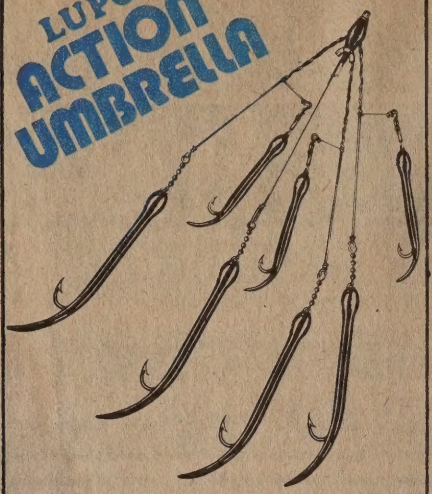

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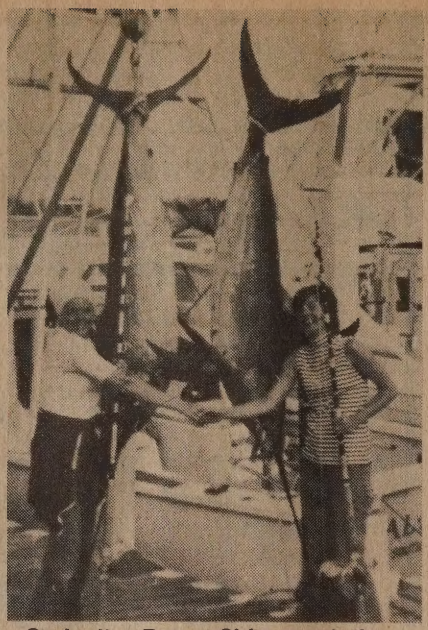

On Ladies Day at Shinnecock these two Swordfish were caught by Bonnie Salivar and Chrissie De Castri which weighed in at 173 and 166 lbs. Photo courtesty of Three Aces Fishing Center.

Tom Callahan of Valley Stream with 7 lb. fluke he caught off buoy on a killie and squid combo. Photo courtesy of Silly Lilly Fishing Station.

MASTIC BEACH

Bob at **Keenan's Fishing Station** reports small blues at buoy 17 to 2½ lbs. jigged off the bottom, both tides. Still lots of fluke with enough keepers to make it interesting on live killies and sand eels on incoming water. Lots of large crabs from buoy 17 to the bridge. Lots of spearing and killies in the water.

WEST SAYVILLE

Marty at **South Bay Fishing Station** tells us that one mile southwest of the Brown's River Jetty weakfishing has really picked up, with one boat bringing in 40 weakfish 2-3 lbs. on fluke rigs armed with spearing, all day. There are more keeper fluke now on squid and spearing, same area, except this is where the sand and mud meet. Lots of good crabbing off the dock, crabs are good size and a lot of softies. There is no bait in the water says Marty.

Young's Fishing Station advises that you try for weaks at buoy 31 and southeast of buoy 31 off Bayport and about 1 mile south of the Brown's River Jetty for weaks up to 3 pounds on squid tipped high-low rigs. Kingfish are also being picked up to 2 pounds. No news on fluke.

CAPTREE

Capt. Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy V** called the bluefishing "unbeliev-

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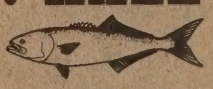

7AM DAILY
540 S. Grove St., FREEPORT (516) BA-3-7418

Tony Masi, Carol Masi and Chuck Perrone caught these stripers in Moriches Bay on live bunker. The stripers weighed 31½, 32½ and 23 lbs. Subscriber Club Photo.

able". The fish are only an hour and a half out now, 7 or 9 miles south/southwest of the inlet in 75 to 85 feet of water. The bluefishing has been so good both day and night that many open boats from other ports have been coming to the area to do their fishing. Four days in a row the Speedy returned to the dock early at the request of the fishermen aboard, who average 12 to 30 fish each. There are two classes of fish, some 2 to 4 lbs. and some 7 to 8 lbs. with an occasional 12 thrown in. The poolfish on Sunday was 14 pounds.

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty** confirmed the excellent bluefishing picture. It has been great both day and night, often as close as a half hour to 40 minute run from the inlet. Friday was a real bonanza with many anglers taking 40 fish 6 to 8 pounds with few 12's. The boat returned early. Saturday was also excellent although the fish were a smaller 2 to 3 lbs. Between 500 and 600 fish were taken, an average of 6 to 12 fish per man.

The **Capt. Rod** said that there are still a lot of fluke around. The numbers are there and the size is getting better everyday with the poolfish usually over 5 lbs. The good news is that the shorts are almost 14 inches and pretty soon the anglers will be able to load up their bags with legal fish. The fish are spread out all over and fishing is good through all tides with any of the standard fluke baits.

Capt. Carl Bauer of the **Capt. Whittaker** has also been doing an excellent job on the fluke. On Sunday the pool was taken by a 12 to 13 lb. doormat fluke.

Local surfman Bill Loesch called to called to tell us that things are beginning to look up at the surf at Democrat Point. Schools of weakfish in the 6 lb. range have been showing up in the evenings and are taking Hopkins, Rebels and Redfins. Some small striped bass have been mixed in with the weaks. Bluefish have been showing up in the morning hours occasionally. Plenty of fluke are also being taken from the surf. Many are shorts, but a few fish of 3 and 4 lbs. do show up in the catches.

OAK BEACH

Bill at **The Store** says that blues to 2 pounds are all over the place all of the time, avoiding only periods of heavy boat traffic, inside and outside, all tides, all methods. Bill reports that fluking is fair on mixed size fish in both the inlet and in the back on killies squid and sand eels. The Moses Bridge has produced a few chummed stripers. Snappers are starting to show. Weakfish are mixed in with the blues and are falling for Hopkins, shrimp jigs, and bucktails. Hot right now for weaks is the Tri-Fin Whiptail. The Sore Thumb jetties are producing some flounders on worms, and a ten pound bass was taken on a clam bellie from the beach at Democratic Point. Lots of sand eels in the water.

BABYLON

Charlie's Fishing Station reports plenty of fluke and even some keepers in the east west channel towards the Copaigue hole and Fox creek on all tides. Charlie says that one fish out of three is a keeper. Snappers are all over the place as are big blue claw crabs. For snapper blues try the channels and right off Bergen Point on any small lure or bait.

Debra Schuele, Bob Murray and Richie Schuele of Bayonne, N.J. with some fluke up to 5 lbs. These fluke were taken by buoy 39 on killie and squid. Photo courtesy of Silly Lilly Fishing Station.

A recent catch aboard the "Peconic Queen II" out of Montauk.

Mario at **Hi-Hook Fishing Station** reports very good crabbing on the Lindenhurst flats with three men getting 20 dozen a couple of days back. Lots of short fluke with a keeper here and there on killies and squid in most areas around the station. Kingfish are showing at the red buoy just before Dickerson's Channel on fluke rigs and harbor blues are taking everything, and running up to 2 pounds.

Bergen Point Fishing Station reports snappers at the docks for the youngsters. Lots of fluke in all of the bay with an awful lot of short fish.

LINDENHURST

Tom at **Surfside 3 Bait and Tackle** reports that anglers fishing wire and umbrellas inshore of the lighthouse are bagging bluefish 2 to 4 lbs. Blue claw crabs and snapapers are at the docks. Offshore fishing was pretty well weathered out this weekend but should bounce back with some decent weather. Tom reminds us that Surfside 3 Bait and Tackle is sponsoring a striped bass invitational tournament for the second week in October, open to all.

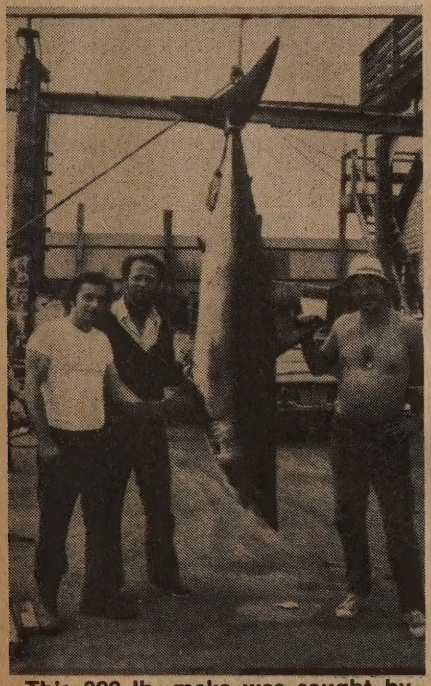
Jack at **Charlie's Bait and Tackle** reports lots of shark activity, mostly makos and blue shark, 160 degrees out of the inlet in 120-130 ft of water on whole mackerel. A 110 lb. mako was taken on the charterboat **"Charlie's Bait"** on Saturday. Lots of big blues are being trolled offshore in 60 feet of water on Sekora umbrella rigs with red and white tubes. Striped bass are

falling to live eels off Cedar Overlook on outgoing water with some large weakfish taken in the same area by surfcasters using live eels and boatmen trolling umbrella rigs. Fluking is very good from the Sore Thumb to the Moses Bridge and the fish are getting bigger in size with 3 fish out of 5 being keepers. Sand eels and killies are doing it, all tides. Crabbing is very good at the town docks with traps and rings. Also snappers are being taken up to ½ pound.

AMITYVILLE

Jona's Bait and Tackle says that the poor weather kept most boats in and limited the fishing in general but some people did get out and took small blues in the bay up to 8 pounds at the Copaigue Hole along with weakfish in morning hours prior to boat traffic, mainly on big Hopkins lures. Jonas reports that one out of 5 fluke is a keeper these days and that no bass have been brought in during the week nor has he heard bass rumors. Crabbing is great at the Copaigue beaches, the flats and the docks

George Comb's Bait and Tackle reports blues excellent from 70-90 feet of wate, 165 feet out of Fire Island Inlet. Whole herring or diamond jigging is producing blues up to 15 pounds. Some football tuna at the NB buoy on cedar jigs and mackerel jigs.



This 320 lb. mako was caught by Dennis Billman pictured here with his two friends Joe Monti and Fred Ciliotta. The shark was weighed in at Stella Maris and during the 1 and a half hours it took to get the shark in it took 9 leaps out of the water.

A few big tuna are being chummed at the mudhole using spearing chum and herring. The best shot at fluke is at West Island with sand eels and squid. All tides. Weakfishing is very good at Fort Neck Point and the Wantagh Draw Bridge, with sand worms on a hi-low rig and shrimp chum, and also jigging with hopkins #2B.

SEAFORD

Capt. Dave Piggot of the **Lucky Strike 3** reported good fluke fishing in Jones Inlet with some fish 18-20 inches. Bluefish are off to a good start at the Cholera Banks 10 miles offshore up to 10 pounds.

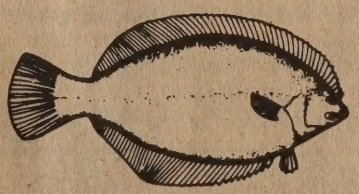
Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station reports weaks at the drawbridge and stripers in the same area on chum with clam bellies on the hook, best at high slack. Plenty of fluke, but most are midgets, most anywhere in the bay. Crabs are starting as are snappers.

Pop's Fishing Station reports the best place for fluke is Four Corners and the State Channel with enough keepers to make it interesting. Blue claw crabs are good at west island. Snappers are all over the place.

MERRICK

G. Korn and son fishing aboard Art Nadel's **Nomad** chummed up a load of bluefish on Saturday in 65 feet of water and filled the tub in just a couple of hours.

Put the SPORT Back in Fishing—



If you can SEE thru it, *IT'S TOO SMALL!*

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Spider Schmidt of the **Aloma II** said his hot spots are still paying off in big fluke. The pool fish are around 8 lbs. while the average size is 3-5 lbs. The anglers average 2-3 fish per man. Sunday the wind and sea conditions forced a change to Playland where the fish ran smaller in the 2 or 3 lb range.

Bags of sea bass and porgies are what the anglers on the **Aloma** are getting these days. A few fluke are also caught as a bonus.

The **Aloma II** will sail for blues on Wed., Fri., and Sat. nights.

It has been a slaughter of blues on the **Starstream II** according to Capt. Kessinger. It started on Friday and continued on both the day and night trips. Poor drifting conditions slowed the catch somewhat on Sunday.

Lisa and Tony Gullo, Jr. with two nice weakfish caught aboard their father's boat "Tony the Tiger" on sandworms under the local parkway bridges. Photo courtesy of Anthony's Fishing Station.

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Bob Rupp, Bruce Rupp and James Bruke of Brooklyn with a recent catch aboard the Aloma.

Capt. J. Hall of the charterboat **Dock One** reports good fishing over the weekend. Saturday he fished in 105 feet of water where he found a body of warm 74 degree water. Trolling on one side of it he hit green bonita and football size tuna. They kept the 35 bonita but put back the tuna. One the opposite side the bluefish were waiting to take his lure.

Miss Freeport reports pretty good fluke fishing. The fluke have moved closer towards the beach and the ride for them is shorter. The quantities are increasing and with fewer throwbacks. Pool fish go 6 to 8 lbs.

On Saturday the charterboat **Forty Fathoms** fished northwest of the HA buoy. They wound up with two dusky sharks of 125 and 144 lbs each. The thriller was the tiger shark that they played for with for an hour and a half. This fish was as long as the transom and finally dove under the boat where the line was cut off on the props.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports good fluking east of the Meadowbrook Bridge, with some fish to 2½ pounds. On Saturday 1 skiff had 8 keepers taken in this area in the morning on an ebb tide on squid and killies. Some weakfish are being taken at the bridge on a sand worm on a hi-low rig. Tony Gullo and pals at the second Wantagh bridge nailed a 8 pound weak on a drifted sand worm. A few schoolie bass have been chummed in morning and evening hours on outgoing water with sand worm as bait.

Roy at **Mako Marina** informs us that Arny Wonsczr bagged a 277 lb. mako on his second shark trip on his boat "Shalidon", this being his very first mako. The catch was off the NB buoy on small cedar plugs. Also, Tony Losito on "Andiamo" had 140 green bonito at the NB to 5 miles west of the NB. Lots of short fluke inside but enough keepers to keep you interested.

Capt. Bill of the charterboat **Acme** took out a 20 man charter from the Early Bird Construction Co. on Friday. They fished south of the pipeline in 68 feet of water. The total catch was 207 blues and the pool fish weighed 17½ lbs. The other blues were from 6 lbs. and up.

Bob Hammand, Sonny Doyle, Dave Robinson and Robbie R caught 2 blues 140-160 lbs., 6 duskies 150-180 lbs., and 1 mako 45" which was mounted at Island and taken by Dave on Capt. Jum Lanzarotta's **Nite Owl**.

POINT LOOKOUT

Spectacular blue fishing said Capt. Porter of the **Brand X.** The catches were from 10 to 40 fish per man. The blues weighed 3-15 lbs. It started on Friday and went day and night until Sunday when the sea conditions made for poor conditions.

The **Angler II** fished the Rainbow area about 11 miles southeast of Jones Inlet with very good results. The blues went in size from 3 to 12 lbs. and some bonita were mixed with them. A lot of fish were caught on green Bingle Bananas.

A lot of fluke reports **Ed's Fishing Station**, but only 1 in 5 is a good size keeper of 2-4 lbs. They are hungry and killies, squid, spearing or sand eels are all equally good bait. Reynolds Channel by buoys 13 and 14 are the most productive. Ed recommends the last half of the incoming tide and the first half of the outgoing .

CHIEF
EVERY DAY 10 AI

A good days fishing was had by a group of the Senior Citizens from Sunnysite Senior Center in woodside on the Chief from Sheepshead Bay.

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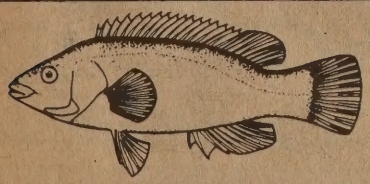

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Jeff Birnhak of the Bronx caught 13 blues and 1 bonita aboard the New Helen H on a good nights fishing. Subscriber Club Photo.

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Bob Aposhian and Eddie Gibbons caught these 8 stripers weighing from 12 to 20 lbs. The bass were caught on live bunker while drifting at Rockaway Point. Subscriber Club Photo.

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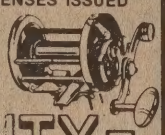

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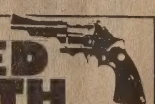

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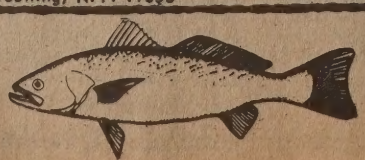

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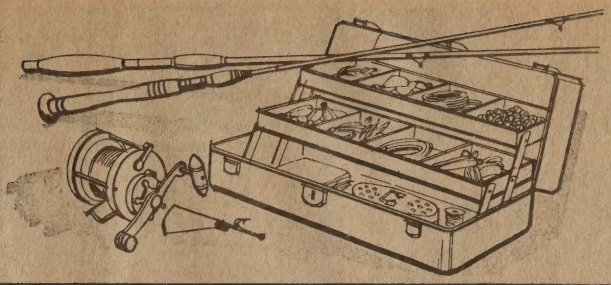
Mike Fanning, John Masino and Walter Cummings with 58 bluefish which they caught aboard the "Brother Two." The blues ranged from 10 to 15 lbs. 2 oz. Subscriber Club Photo.



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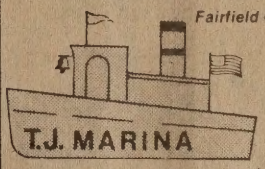

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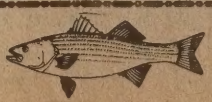

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LONG BEACH

Jim at **Long Beach Sports Marina** reports fair fluking with keepers on the upswing. The big news is the blues and weaks in Debs Inlet. Bernie Hoag fished the top of the tide during the week using Salty Dog lure with pork rind or squid and he had 20 weaks. John Stein, who works at the Long Beach Sports Marina, was fishing under the birds in Debs Inlet for weaks and was surprised by a 8¼ lb fluke. This fluke took a Lupo shrimp lure with squid meant for the weaks.

ISLAND PARK

Capt. Bill of the **Ginnie Mae** has switched to bluefishing. He went about 12 miles southeast of Jones Inlet

where he hit into blues of 2 to 8 lbs. The fishing was very good.

Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook reports the fluke fishing is so-so. The fluke are hitting most baits. Clam chumming for striped bass by the bridges is holding its own. Small blues are being trolled on the Bingle Boa Jr outside of Jones Inlet.

Shearwater Co-Captain Jack McShane fished out of Shinnecock for 3½ days this past week and had 6 Marlin up and 1 on, 2 up on another day and took 3 25 lb. tuna to boot. Jack says Marlin seems to have slowed, perhaps due to the drop in water temperature, and swordfish action has also tapered off a bit. Jack attributes this to the sloppy weather we have all been un-enjoying.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Capt. Ronnie Lepper of the **Kim** reports sharking still very good, though fewer makos have been taken this week. The 75 degree plus water temperature, storms and lightening may have been the reason. This week saw great weakfishing and bluefishing in the Silver Point jetty area, drifting and casting into the rocks with red lupo shrimp tipped with squid strip, and white bucktails on the ebb and flood tides. The weaks are 3-7 lbs. and the blues up to 3 lbs. No bass news.

Leon at **Hennings Fishing Station** reports the lumpy waters made offshore fishing slow. Even so, Chris Vitucci fishing on Oscar Amoraso's boat the **Marlin**, won the Atlantic Beach Rod and Gun Club Shark Tournament. He brought in a 55 lb. dusky.

Inshore there are lots and lots of fluke. There are also lots of throw-backs. One that did not get thrown back was a 7 lb. 7 oz. fluke that took a sand eel thrown at it by Richard Lewis Leon says to be prepared for bluefish and weakfish action while out fluking. Have a rod ready with shrimp lures and watch for the birds. There is also a rumor of kingfish being caught at the Rockaways.

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HUDSON PARK, NEW ROCHELLE

NEW JERSEY Fishing Report

In the Staten Island area there is good weakfishing at Mount Loretta at buoy 39 4 and the Bug Light. Bananas in green and black and sandworms are the best bet. Plenty of fluke and blues are moving through. Stripers are at Penny Beach and South Beach. Snapper blues are all over the place.

In the Sandy Hook area fluke fishing is good all along the beach. Stripers are on the upswing on live bunker from the Hook to Seabright. Lots of blues, both chumming and trolling.

In the Long Branch area fluke have slowed in this area and there are scattered weakfish. Blues are picking up with N.J.F. editor Pete Barrett, scoring well on Lupo red eels. Bass are on an on and off preposition with tubes and bunker best in the early morning.

CONNECTICUT SCENE

The Mamoroneck area is producing bass on the bottom on bunker chunks, try the heads. Plugging action near zero. Blues and porgies are scattered. Black fishermen are producing.

In the Byron area there is good porgie fishing at the Cows. There are blues up to 13 pounds at the F an E buoys on chunks. Plugging is bad here too.

In the Greenwich area porgies and blackfish are in the spotlight. Bass are scattered, those that have been taken have hit bait. Bluefish are being caught in the early morning.

Capt. George Glas of the **Hel-Cat** in Groton, Connecticut said that the bluefishing has been excellent in the Race. The fish are all large, running from 8 to 12 pounds and the poolfish usually goes 14 or 15 lbs. One couple during the week took 141 lbs. of blues that yielded 60 lbs. of fillets. High hook for a days fishing is usually around 20 fish and the average per man is 8 or 9.

JAMAICA BAY

Crossbay Rod and Gun reports blues of 2-3 lbs. are at the North Channel bridge and taking bunker bait. A ten pounder came from there. There are also sand porgies and snappers. The South Channel bridge also had sand porgies along with fluke. The fluke are hitting on all baits. The Marine Parkway bridge has good nightime fishing for striped bass on worms and blues on bunker bait. John said the crabs are starting to come in.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Mike's Tackle reports the night bluefishing is better than day according to Freddie. Fred says they did well bucktailing for striped bass off the Rockaway Jetty. Sea bass and porgies are some of your best bets. Fluke fishing has quieted down.

Capt. Ken Kreisler, son of Capt. Stan of the **babe** got 100 ton, 100 mile Captains License and will take turns running the boat with his father.

Capt. Fred of the **Amberjack IV** reports good bluefishing during the week till Thursday. Daytime fishing was better than the night when it was picky.

The **Helen H** is doing alright on the blues. They have had good fishing every day.

The **John K II** jigged up 120 blues on Saturday and Sunday. These blues were from 1 to 5 lbs. They worked off Sea Bright and worked towards the Highlands.

The **Babe** did fine trolling for blues and striped bass on the black side of Ambrose to Shrewesbury Rocks. The fish took umbrella rigs, spoons and bucktails but the black Bingle Banana took most of the 6 lb. and bigger blues and the only striped bass.

STATEN ISLAND

The Teal has had good catches of 4 to 6 lb blues which they have chummed close by. **Miss Moore** is fluking and good quantities are being taken on squid and sand eels.

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Gene Gerardi caught these two bass from the surf on the north shore which weighed 19 and 24 lbs. Subscriber Club Photo.

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

Good weakfishing says **Art White's Bait Shop.** These weaks are taking squid, worms or shrimp lures. Louies Beach is good and Pipes Cove the best. The Green Hills area at Gardiners Island has good fluking using a bucktail fluke rig with sand eels or squid. There are loads of porgies there also and some sea bass are mixed in. The Plum Gut still has some striped bass.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports that porgies are still holding the spotlight. Jessup's Neck and the Greenlawns are the best spots. On the weekend some boats went to the Greenport breakwater or Hay Beach Point to escapt the wind. They caught porgies and a few weaks.

NEW SUFFOLK

Phil at **Capt. Marty's Fishing Station** reports a lot of porgies at buoy 4 west of Robins Island. The weaks are about 2 lbs. and are taking squid and sand worms. Snappers of about 12 inches are all over.

JAMESPORT

Alot of weaks reports **Warren's Tackle Center** in Aquebogue. They are taking a sand worm on a high hook. Buoy 2, South Race and Rose Grove are all good spots. Porgies are plentiful. Small blues of 1-1½ lbs are all around. Bigger ones are being taken in Long Island Sound on bunker or jigging.

WADING RIVER

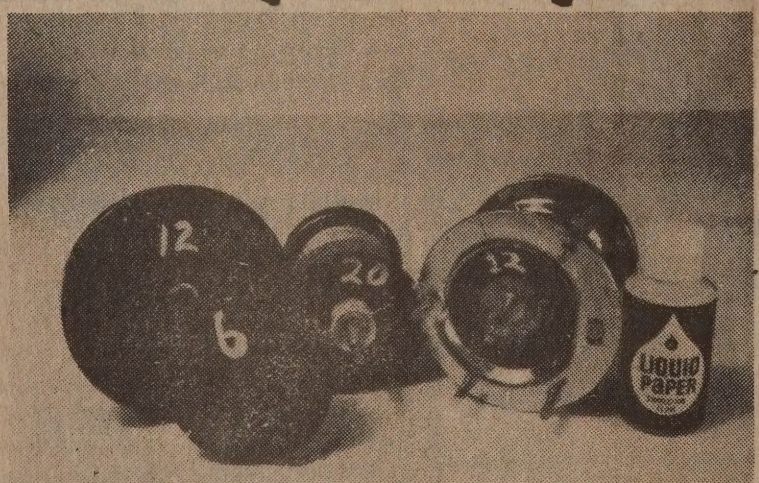
Wildwood Deli reports loads of porgies around. An occassional black is also taken with them. Joe and Jack Lokarz with Lorraine Rocco trolled and drifted eels off Herod Point on the outgoing tide. All caught striped bass. Joe had a 22 pounder, Jack had a 16 pounder and Lorraine had a 14 pounder. Bluefishing is slow.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Plenty of porgies reports **Ralph's** Fishing Station. Blackfish have dropped off. Blues have to be hunted for. There are fluke both in the harbor and outside. Try using killies, sand eels or squid.

Jane Specht of New Rochelle caught this 46½ lb. striper with mackerel chunks off Fort Slocum in New Rochelle. Subscriber Club Photo.

Jerry Gomber's Tip Shop

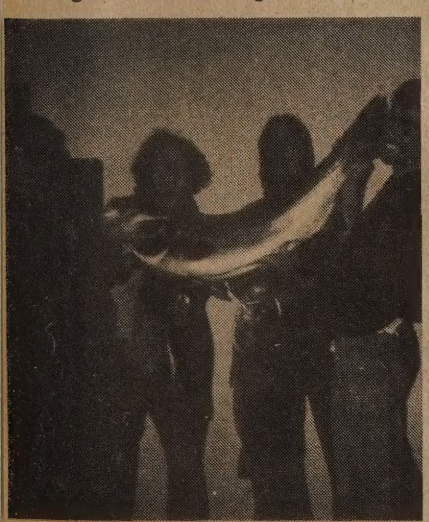


MARKING SPOOLS WITH line test and/or length can be a real problem. Tape tends to peel after a few uses and most inks bleed in salt water or cleaning chemicals. LIQUID PAPER (available in most stationary stores) makes this chore easy. Just paint your numbers on the spools with the applicator brush. Markings won't peel, fade or wash off, but can be easily removed by scraping with a fingernail if you change line test or lengthen a previously marked spool.

Edward Schickman, Diane Acosta and Capt. John of the Chris I caught these 4 bass up to 28 lbs. last Friday on mackerel and bunker chunks.

PORT JEFFERSON

The whole north shore seems alive with porgies reports **Caraftis Fishing Station.** These fish are plentiful off Old Field Point. Another good bet is to fish across Mt. Misery Shoal for fluke. The biggest so far was over 7 lbs. but there are lots of 3-5 pounders. They take sand eels, spearing or squid on moving water. Blues are starting to come in and were caught northwest of Crane's Neck in 30 feet of water trolling umbrella rigs or tubes.



Howard Seigal and Frank Mirabella with some stripers they caught aboard the charterboat "Gotcha" out of Orient Point. The bass weighed 19, 24, and 46 lbs. A 10 lb. blue was also caught. Subscriber Club Photo.

Caraftis says these e umpteen snapper kids of alles.

The **Jeff Ace** and **Jib III** are filling the fishing gs of their fares w oads of porg These are of goode, ¾ and uplacks of 4-8 pounds still being ght but not as plen as previous

NORTHPO

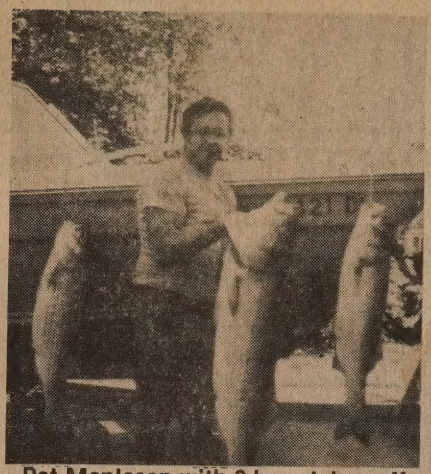
Larkf Sports Cer reports good std bass fishiusing clam chum atons Neck. Sl blues are being cht near the l hot water dischar sing bunkerbait.

Tom **Bowman's Sing Goods** said there tons of 4 n snappers all arou the dock. Bl out in the Long Is Sound are tg taken on bunker ons, tubes or brella rigs. Inside harbor bunkchum and chunks taking small lues of 3-5 pounds

HUNTINGTON

Geor Valentine at **ur Winds Tackle** the clam cmers are reaping harvest of std bass at Eatons k. Fish are aging 6-10 lbs. wit any in the twies.

Ronnie Bait and Te reports excelle iped bass fig all week long us live bunke These are 20-52 lbs being take m Target



Pat Mapleson with 3 bass taken off Miller Place on mackerel chunks. The bass weighed 45, 28 and 24 lbs. Subscriber Club Photo.

Rock to Marshall Field. Carl Fusaro of Huntington Station took the 52 pounder. Weaks at Centerport Harbor and Duck Island. Use worms on a hi-lo rig and also pick up porgies on the lower hook. Blues are being trolled off Eatons Neck using umbrella rigs and bucktails. They are also under the bunker in Cold Spring Harbor.

GLEN COVE

John Cuccialo at **Glen Cove Sports**

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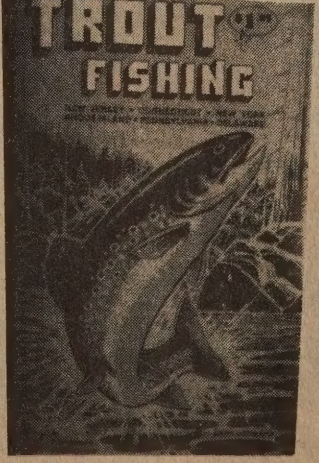

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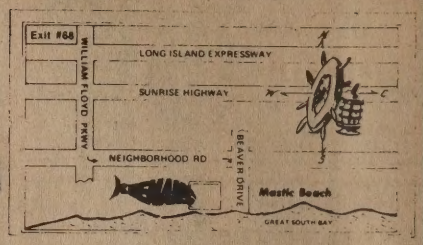

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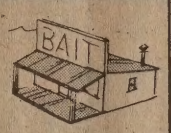

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1975 GRADY WHITE 204 C HATTERAS OVERNIGHTER, 115 Johnson, Used one month, gently. $6995. STARFISH MARINE Call (516) 581-0881.

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28 ft VERITY, Completely rebuilt Gill net, work boat. 1975 225 Merc. F/W/C, Hydraulic net hauler. Nets, Buoys, Gear elac recorder, CB. Investment, $8000 plus. Open to offers. Call after 6 p.m. (516) 581-3308.

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30' SUMNERCRAFT Fiberglass Hull, Ford Diesel, F/W/C, Sleeps 4, Extras. Asking $5200. Call (212) 461-8610 except Sunday.

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1962 30' LUHRS SPORTFISHERMAN, 280 h.p. Chrysler, S/S Radio, D/F, Compass, Gin Pole, Outriggers, Sleeps 4. Immaculate condition. Will demonstrate $4000. Call (516) 669-3954.

1968 30' PACEMAKER SPORTFISHERMAN, 210 h.p. F/W/C, Depth Finders, Radio, Covers, Bimini, Low hours, excellent condition, Many Extras. Like New. $7500. Amityville. Call (516) 598-2393.

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BOATING EQPT

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MOONLIGHT SAIL, sponsored by Kappler's Sportsman's Club—Leaving From Bay Shore Marina, Aboard the Fire Island Queen. Sailing Sept. 20 (Sat. night) 6 p.m. Music, Refreshments, door Prize, $12.50 a ticket. For Further information Call Carmine (516) 234-1909 or Joe at (516) 234-0918.

PROUD OF YOUR FISH? Register it with American Anglers and receive as permanent recognition a Handsome Certificate designed for framing, suitable for Dens, Club Rooms, Children's rooms, etc. forward date caught, and where, species, angler's name, weight, along with $4.95 to DF, Box 441, Huntington, N.Y. 11743.

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Long Island Jeep Inc.—New York's Largest Jeep Dealer. COMMANDO'S, WAGONEER'S, CJ'S, largest selection of New and Used JEEPS. Closeout sale on '75 Jeeps—40 in stock. 1400 Henpstead Tpk. Elmont, N.Y. Call (516) 354-0267.

For Sale—Combination Fishing Station/High Volume Gas Dock/Bait and Tackle Store Plus 5 Room apartment. South Shore Long Island, Within 50 miles of N.Y.C. Write L.I.F.P.O. Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729.

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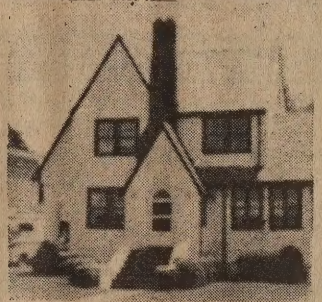

WATERFRONT TUDOR—85 x 100, 5 bedrooms, living room with fireplace, formal dinng room, huge kitchen, 3 car detached garage, Excellent Freeport area. High assumable mortgage at 7¼%, Best Offer over $50,000. Call agent for Appointment, Weinhold Realty (516) 379-3204.

FISHING STATION AND BOAT YARD FOR SALE—Established and Growing Business. All New equipment. Storage and Dockage Facilities. Call (516) 567-9765 or (516) 363-6024.

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2 Hook Fluke Rigs 5/$1.00, Wire Leader Bluefish Hooks 16/$1.00, 3 hook porgy rigs 3/$1.00, Weakfish shrimp tail jigs 2/$1.00, 3 hook flounder rigs 4/$1.00, FREE Catalogue, MOUNTAINTOP, Starksboro, Vt. 05487.

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PARTY BOAT SKIPPERS—#5-0 Mustard Hooks, Bronze. Single #9 Strand, bronzed wire leader, approx. 4 inches. $10 per hundred. Also with #3 Black Barrell Swivel $13 per hundred. Pinch-on Sinkers #4-8 by the gross. Call (516) SU1-3889 after 5 P.M.

SUPER FLUKE KILLER RIG! It's a Doozy! Send $1 to Hudson Tackle, Box 437, Kearny, New Jersey 07032

NEW IMPROVED Tandem Hook Fluke Rig! Latest refinement of a "swinging hook" to this popular fluke killer allows you to adjust the tandem hooks to the length of your strip bait or sand eel. Keeps your bait perfectly straight and naturla looking while it puts a hook where strip baits are normally bitten off by fluke. Send $3 for 3 prototype rigs and directions on how to tie your own to avoid paying this ridiculous price to Scott Simons, 1428 Richland Blvd. Bay Shore, New York 11706.

NOW AVAILABLE - The ultimate FLUKE KILLER RIG - Deadly, double hook design, long the secret weapon of the "pros". You'll hook more and lose fewer fish, since fluke can't avoid tail hook. Each rig hand tied, finest materials. 3 rigs, $3, includes FREE instruction. Send ck. of M.O. to P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpk. Merrick, N.Y. 11566 - (Pays for itself in fluke dinners).

PORGIE KILLER RIGS - The porgies are trying to get it declared illegal. 3 needle sharp gold beak mustad hooks tied in at just the right heights to assure big catches. Hand tied-finest quality. 5 completely tied rigs for $4, includes instructions on how to tie your own. P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpk., Merrick, N.Y. 11566.

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LETHAL LURE
(Continued from page 12.)

there is no knocking success. I think that the main reason for this effectiveness is the compatability of the darker colors with the surrounding environment.

A black worm seems to blend in naturally in dark or stained water. After all, when you see a bass swimming around in shallow watrer it appears to be black. The same holds true for other species. One general rule that is quoted by worm fishermen is this: Use the dark colors on dark days and the light colors on bright days. This is a fairly good rule of thumb, but bass are too unpredictable for it to be accurate 100 percent of the time. In reference to worm size, my preference lies with the 6-7 ¼ inch models, though I will use a 9" serpent when fishing deeper structure. There are many different types of worms to choose from, but attempt to use those that offer some sort of additional action i.e., broad tail, jointed body or fluttering appendages.

Put aside your old concept of worm fishing (the garden variety) and toss out a few of these plastic wonders, I guarantee they work.

Dennis and Ron Morgan of Bayshore with 2 of 25 sharks taken aboard the Kim at the HA buoy on July 8. The sharks pictured are 200 lb. mako and a 300 lb. blue shark.

told us the blues hit the area at mid-week. These are big fish up to 15 lbs. and are taking trolled big tubes or spoons. You can also fish for them on the bottom with bunker chunks. Smaller 3-5 lb. blues are marrauding schools of bunker at sunrise and sunset. Work to the edge of the schools and drift while casting popper plugs. Striped bass worm trolling is bringing in a lot of fish around 10 lbs. with some to 24 lbs. Snappers are Everywhere but don't take the small 3-4 inch ones, let them go to grow up.

PORT WASHINGTON

Big blues have been taken trolling, plugging and with chunks of bait according to **Moreland's Bait and Tackle.** In Manhasset Bay there are weakfish which have been taken on plugs along with a few blues. Snappers are small and around the docks. Porgies are plentiful.

BAYVILLE

Pump's Park Fishing Station reports porgies are all over can 19, Cold Spring Harbor lighthouse and Center Island reef. The porgies go about one pound. Blues have been in and out. They have been under the bunker in Cold Spring Harbor.

CITY ISLAND

Joe Bwick caled on the local bass fishing and says that on July 15 a 45 pounder was taken by Paul Marino of New Rochelle on a live bunker, North of Harts Island. Blues are running 7-18 lbs. Greg Kociuba of Oceanside took a 16 pound blue on live bunker also on the north side of the City Island Bridge. Thus far, Marino leads in Joe Burck's contest. There's a $25 prize for largest bass, blue and blackfish for the season. Call Burck's on City Island Avenue for info.

Capt. John of the **Chris I** said the striped bass fishing has been pretty good at Barkers Point, Sands Point and Harts Island. Both live and chunk bait fished on a dropping tide gets a couple of bass from 18 to 34 lbs. along with a few schoolies. This is night fishing. During the day it is wire lining and live lining for blues and bass.

George Dunn with part of a catch of 14 weakfish from 3 to 6 lbs. caught on Capt. Bob Foley's boat "Debi" on Lupo shrimp in Reynolds Channel. Subscriber Club Photo.

L.I.F. SUBSCRIBER CLUB MEMBERS ONLY!!!!

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TIDE TABLES

ON →	SANDY HOOK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT	
DAY	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
7/24 THURSDAY	9:20	9:33	10:58	11:06	12:54	1:20	12:25	12:51
7/25 FRIDAY	9:58	10:10	11:35	11:46	1:19	1:42	1:05	1:31
7/26 SATURDAY	10:37	10:49	—	12:17	1:37	2:00	1:44	2:10
7/27 SUNDAY	11:16	11:26	12:26	12:59	2:06	2:29	2:24	2:48
7/28 MONDAY	11:56	—	1:08	1:42	2:40	3:06	3:04	3:30
7/29 TUESDAY	12:06	12:35	1:53	2:27	3:20	3:47	3:49	4:15
7/30 WEDNESDAY	12:48	1:19	2:40	3:18	4:06	4:33	4:37	5:03
7/31 THURSDAY	1:34	2:07	3:34	4:08	4:57	5:22	5:29	5:55

SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Potunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Inlet & Dem. Pt.	−0 38
Coast Giard Sta.	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Loop Pkwy. Bridge	+0 25
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 00
Beach Ch. (Bridge)	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26
STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
MANASQUAN	−0 12

WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28

NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Connecticut River	+1 10
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land	−0 14
Fort Pond Bay	−0 29
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point	−1 13

BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	−0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0 08
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet −0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". − 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

	A.M		P.M.	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
7/24	5:55	**12:10**	6:25	**12:35**
7/25	6:45	**12:55**	7:10	**1:20**
7/26	7:35	**1:45**	7:55	**2:05**
7/27	8:20	**2:30**	8:40	**2:55**
7/28	9:10	**3:15**	9:25	**3:40**
7/29	9:50	**4:05**	10:15	**4:30**
7/30	10:45	**4:50**	11:00	**5:10**
7/31	11:30	**5:40**	11:50	**6:00**

PHASES OF THE MOON

7-8	7-15	7-23	7-31
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

SUNRISE/SUNSET

7-6	5:37	8:32
7-12	5:40	8:30
7-18	5:45	8:27
7-24	5:50	8:22

ISLAND MARINE TAXIDERMY STUDIOS

(Division of Island Taxidermy Studios, Inc.)

We Will Mount Largest

*WHITE MARLIN • MAKO • STRIPED BASS
Caught On Long Island **FREE!**

* The Second Largest of Above Species AT HALF PRICE!

* The Third Largest of Above Species AT 1/3 OFF!

NO ENTRY FEE! Anyone Can Win! Anyone Can Enter!

Have your fish weighed at our studio or call for listing of official weigh station in your area.

Dates of Contest:

1) White Marlin—July 1 to August 31
*2) Mako Shark—June 1 to September 31
3)Striped Bass—June 1 to October 31
**Mako winners will receive ½ mount including side fin*

Big Fish Contest!

GUARANTEED LIFE TIME MOUNTING

We Also Offer--

FREE—Pick Up & Delivery—Anywhere on Long Island of any fish you cannot easily bring to our studio.

Call Our Studio & We Will--

- Meet you at dockside to pick up fish—7 days a week
- Go to any marina or come to your home to pick up fish
- Make any suitable arrangements necessary to make mounting of your fish a pleasure

Call Our Studio & We Will--

- Pick up and deliver *Free* any damaged, previously mounted fish you may want repaired

Present Contest Leaders:

MAKO
#1 Al Ristori, 405 lbs., Garcia Corp.
#2 Ken Bachmann, 355 lbs., Mako Marina
#3 Mark Tesser, 310 lbs., Bayshore Mako

BASS
#1 Frank Figuero, 52.8, Merrick Marine
#2 Carl Fusaro, 52.1
#3 Buddy Holmes, 51.10, Merrick Marine

MARLIN
#1 Red Enoksen, 68 lbs., Oakdale Sports
#2 None Weighed
#3 None Weighed

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(Division of Island Taxidermy Studio, Inc.)

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(516) 587-5002

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